P.O.Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
January 15, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. King:-

Supplement to Monthly Report:

We had two special Christmas Services on the Sunday before Christmas, a Christmas tree program on Tuesday with a gift for everyone(if only an apple), and Carol singing about town on Christmas Eve,--still we felt a bit guilty on Christmas Morning because someone came to Church for a Service and we had none planned. That particular person has attended no other service since we have been in Wrangell. But I guess we will have to plan on a Christmas day service next year.

My wife conducted a candle-light service for the Ladies Aid Society and I conducted one for the Missionary Society. We also had a fine Watch-night service on New Year's Eve and a Community Prayer Service in our church on New Year's day with the Salvation Army and Episcopal Church participating. At this service, all who attended were in favor of observing "America's Prayer Minute" at 6 o'clock every night, the movement sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches. Beginning that night, January 1st, and every night since, our church bell has tolled at 6 o'clock and conversations during pastoral visits reveal that many are observing that minute of prayer each night.

At our quarterly Communion Service January 4th. three new members were received into the Church, one on profession of faith and two by letter from the Juneau Memorial Church.

We sent three boxes of canned goods & clothing to Haines House.

Immediately after the United States declared War, attendance at all services fell off. Every one stayed home every chance they had to listen to the radio. Only now are the services coming back to normal again. People are getting used to conditions.

We put in a good many hours on civilian guard duty and finally caught a cold in the bargain, but now there are a few paid guards and no more civilian guarding. No one is sorry.

We had six weeks of snow, cold and ice but it has rained now for ten days in a row and no signs of let up. The snow and ice disappeared like magic.

Sincerely,

Harry C

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WRANGELL - ALASKA

MORNING WORSHIP JANUARY 11, 1942

ORGAN PRELUDE Mrs. Leth Meadows

PROCESSIONAL HYMN No.77 "Our God Our Help"

INVOCATION, THE LORD'S PRAYER

GLORIA PATRI

RESPONSIVE READING Selection 6

CHOIR SPECIAL "Ancient of Days"

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 6:10-19

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

HYMN No. 162 "Beneath The Cross of Jesus"

WORSHIP thru OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY and PRAYER

SERMON "The Symbol of Christianity"

PRAYER

HYMN No. 154 "In The Cross Of Christ I Glory"

BENEDICTION and CHORAL RESP NSE

THE POSTLUDE

The cross still stands, and in the straits of the soul makes its ancient appeal."
--Matthew Arnold.

THE WAY OF THE CROSS

MOuld us, O Christ,
Beneath Thy swift, creative hand,
To do Thy will,
To show God's love,
To make His world more free, more joyful,
To combat pain and wrong,
To pay, in our own flesh,
Our share of what it costs to help and save.
--J. S. Hoyland

YOUNG PEOPLE MEET THIS AFTERNOON AS USUAL

THE SERMONETTE TONIGHT AT 7:30 will be from the text "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's and unto God the things that are God's".

ALL THE OFFICERS AND TEACHERS of the Sunday School and Church are requested to meet at the Manse Monday Evening at 7:30 for a Workers Conf.

THE LADIES AID SOCIETY WILL MEET TUESDAY AT 2

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER HOUR..Wed.7:30
Subject of study for January 14th
The Parable of the Last Judgment..Math.25:31-46.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY WILL MEET WEDNESDAY NIGHT

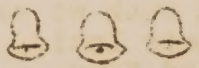
COMMUNION SUNDAY last week we welcomed into our membership: Mrs. Thomas Louie, Miss Martha Person, and Mr. Richard King.

If you touch the cross, it will leave its mark upon you, If you bear no print of the cross, be sure that you have never touched it yet. Sorrow, humility, self-denial, a tender conscience, a spirit of love--these are the marks of the Lord Jesus, the prints of the nails, the pledges of our pardon. from Royton Manor.

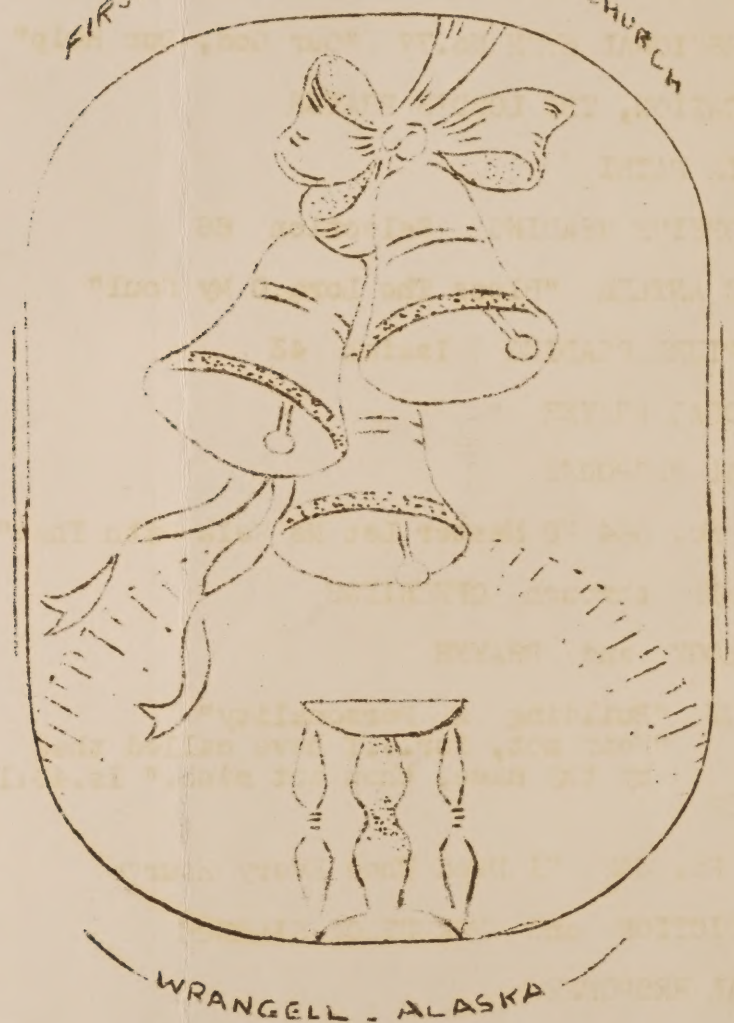
Not that I have already obtained,
or am already made perfect:
but I press on,
if so be that I may lay hold on
that for which also I was laid hold on
by Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I count not myself yet to
have laid hold:
but one thing I do —
Forgetting the things which are behind,
and stretching forward to the things
which are before,
I press on toward the goal
unto the prize of the high calling
of God in Christ Jesus.

Phil. 3: 12-14.



"LOST: Yesterday between sunrise
and sunset - two golden hours ....
each set with sixty diamond minutes.
No reward is offered for they are
gone forever!"


FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WRANGELL - ALASKA

MORNING WORSHIP JANUARY 18, 1942

ORGAN PRELUDE Mrs. Leth Meadows

PROCESSIONAL HYMN No.77 "Our God, Our Help"

INVOCATION, THE LORD'S PRAYER

GLORIA PATRI

RESPONSIVE READING Selection 66

CHOIR ANTHEM "Bless The Lord O My Soul"

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 43

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

HYMN No. 364 "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee"

WORSHIP through OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY and PRAYER

SERMON "Building A Personality"
"Fear not, for...I have called thee by thy name, thou art mine." Is.43:1

PRAYER

HYMN No. 332 "I Need Thee Every Hour"

BENEDICTION and MOMENT OF SILENCE

CHORAL RESPONSE

THE POSTLUDE

"The fault, dear Brutus, is not in our stars,
But in ourselves, that we are underlings."

Many a man laments that he is not able to do the large things in the large way that some others are do ng, and yet he may be a great contributor to the welfare of his fellow men...

SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE....7:30 P. M.
Song service and Discussion of Luke 3:1-22

IF EVERY SINGLE PERSON WHO PROFESSED TO BE A Christian would darken the church door at least once a week, all the services would be filled.

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY AND PRAYER HOUR..Wed.7:30
Beginning January 21st we will begin the study of the Gospel of Mark...Read Chapter 1.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY WILL MEET WEDNESDAY EVENING

SINCE JANUARY 1 there has been under way a national prayer movement sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches. At 6 o'clock every evening every person in America, is urged to stop for "America's Prayer Minute", and for a moment offer a prayer to the Sovereign God of All Mankind. A similar "prayer minute" has had considerable observance in the British Isles. The bell in this church rings every night at 6.

EXCERPTS FROM LETTER FROM HAINES HOUSE.....
Dear Friends:

During the Christmas season we received some boxes from you which contained many valuable articles for our home.

The used clothing is much appreciated and it will all soon have happy owners. As you may well know a family the sixe of ours is always in need of some type of clothing.

I assure you the food will be much enjoyed too, as our family has the bility to consume a great deal of food during the year.

Please extend our appreciation to all who shared in making this gift possible and may you find many blessings in this service you have rendered.

--Sincerely, Edwin E. Knudson, Director.

Not that I have already obtained,
or am already made perfect:
but I press on,
if so be that I may lay hold on
that for which also I was laid hold on
by Christ Jesus.

Brethren, I count not myself yet to
have laid hold:
but one thing I do —
Forgetting the things which are behind,
and stretching forward to the things
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I press on toward the goal
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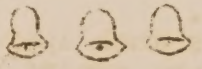

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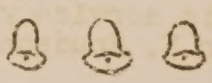

P.O.Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
February, 4, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. King:-

Thanks for your letter of January 23 in regards to salary and pension. I never could figure out why the Pension Board did not write your office in the first place. I also told the Board that the $300 was a gift, but that it was applied on my salary, which it was. In fact the checks were marked ½ salary increase.

Wrangell bargained to entertain Presbytery and Presbyterial meetings this spring and though such meetings if held, are two months in the offing, still we would like to have some idea if the meetings will be held.

We are aware of the fact that the Princeton-Hall and the SJS have been requisioned by the U. S. Navy. But we wonder if they could be procured for the week of Presbytery or will other boats be chartered? or will the meetings be called off this time.

I think we could do our business by correspondence once in our lives, but I ofcourse, do not know what the other men think.

I am in favor of the Chairman of the National Missions Committee acting as the National Missions Committee for the duration.

Very sincerely,

N. Harry Champlin.

P.O. Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
February 9, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. King:

When the general notice arrived concerning the salary adjustments, I said to myself, it will never spread far enough to reach me.

So, it was a happy surprise to receive your letter of January 27th notifying me of a $60 increase if the Church would match it with the same amount.

We had a meeting of the Session last night after the Evenig Service and it was an unanimous agreement that the Church would take care of the $60 plus the pension premium on the same.

Since I last wrote, I received a letter from Mr. Yaw in which he stated that Mr. Booth was dickering to charter a boat in Juneau. Whether it would be used for Presbytery or Summer Conference or both I wouldn't know. I am supposed to be Dean of the Summer Conference this year in the expected absence of Knutson to Gen. Assembly, and am ofcourse interested in that angle of it as well as Presbytery Meeting.

Would appreciate any dope you may receive on the matter.

Sincerely,

Harry

N. H. Champlin

P. O. Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
March 14, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Supplement to Monthly report

Dear Dr. King:

American Red Cross First Aid took a prominent part in our activities last month. We took the standard course under the local Doctor and then qualified as an instructor under a representative from the headquarters staff. We began instructing our first class this week with a class of eight from the Ladies Aid Society. We believe this work to be quite worth while in these times.

We gave one of three talks at a Community Rally to foster the sale of Defense Bonds and Savings Stamps. The superintendent of the Institute asked us to give the same program for the Institute Students, which we did. This is a little out of our line but we put it in the category of Civic Duties and hoped we did some good.

We started to get the machinery in order for the entertainment of Presbytery but were not surprised when it was finally cancelled. Many will be disappointed but I think we all realize it cannot be helped in these times.

At the request of the Salvation Army, we wrote our disapproval of the licensing of a new cocktail bar withing 200 yards of the Salvation Army Hall. The bar was not installed.

We start our every member canvass next week for a budget of nearly $1000.00 and we pray we shall be successful.

Very sincerely,

Harry

N. H. Champlin

P. O. Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
April 16, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Supplement to Monthly Report:

Dear Dr. King:

Our three church services and the Sunday School Service on Easter were all exceptionally well attended.

Eighty-five people were on hand at 6 A. M. for the Sunrise Service. I preached a short sermon and twenty-two Young People presented a colorful play entitled "The Dawn".

The devotional service of the Sunday School Hour was taken up with a Pantomime, "Spring In The Brown Meadow", presented by fourteen small children in costume.

We were happy to receive six young people into the membership of the church at the eleven o'clock service; the fruits of a Communicant's Class held during Lent.

Thirty-five members of the Wrangell Institute Glee Club were our guests at the evening service. They represent five different Alaskan tribes and their homes range from Ketchikan to Kodiak. We were rightfully thrilled with their singing of "The Lord's Prayer" by Malotte, "Adoramus Te Christe" by Palistrina, and the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah".

Because of the proximity of the U. S. Navy base to the Sheldon Jackson School at Sitka, plans are under way to hold the annual Sitka Young Peoples' Summer Conference here at Wrangell Institute. The Institute is a native Boarding school for High School students, conducted by the Office of Indian Affairs.

My extra-curricular civilian defense activities are mostly taken up with American Red Cross First Aid Instruction.

Two afternoons a week I am conducting a course for the members of the Ladies Aid Society with a few other ladies also attending the class.

I am teaching a Junior Course to the Boy Scouts on their weekly meeting night, and expect to have the initial meeting of a men's course next week. For this last course, I shall have the assistance of other instructors.

I also have a shiny new badge with the words "Wrangell Civil Defense Patrol" printed upon it. I am

one of two wardens assigned to the street back of the church which covers five blocks.

The Boy Scout Troop of which I am Scoutmaster, distributed air-raid instructions and Health Department Nutrition circulars all over town and to every fishing boat in the harbor.

At the direction of Rev. Mr. Bromley, Chairman of the National Missions Committee, I went over to Petersburg last week to assist our Thlinget lay worker, Mr. George Betts, to bring the church year to a close.

Mr. Betts was supposed to come over after me in his fishing boat but the boat was being repaired and could not make the trip. So I hitch-hiked on a 50-foot boat used for shrimp fishing, appropriately named, "The Shrimp of Wrangell".

We had a stormy five hour passage over, but I guess I proved to be some kind of a sailor or other because when I was supposed to be feeling kind of seasickish I pulled some hard Easter candy out of my pocket, ate some and tried to pass it around but no one else seemed to care for any!

I had wired Mr. Betts I was coming and he was dutifully on hand to catch the ropes when we were ready to dock.

For the next eleven hours it seems to me we wasted precious little time.

We had dinner in the quarters over the Church with Mrs. Betts and the family after which, walking around in the pouring rain, we called upon several shut-ins and also the local Lutheran Minister. Back to the church again, we made arrangements for the evening service. I called at the public school and then went up to my room in the hotel for a half hour rest before supper. Mr. Betts had eight guests in his home and so I was the guest of an Elder and his wife who provided me with a room at the hotel.

At 7:30 we held a Session meeting at which time we received two members into the church by certificate and one on profession of faith. They were publicly received at the Communion Service which followed during which, I preached the Sermon. When I had finished, Mr. Betts translated the gist of the sermon in Thlinget and presented it more forcefully than I had in the first place. At this service three babies and one child were baptized. The three babies cried lustily. Immediately following this service, we held the annual congregational meeting and heard the reports from the various organizations and talked over plans for the future. At this meeting we re-elected and installed one Elder. We elected and ordained one Elder. We re-elected and installed one Deacon. And we elected and ordained one Deacon. The re-elected Elder, Mr. John James happened to be one of the organizers of the church. After his installation, he gave a

talk in his native Thlinget which Mr. Betts translated to me as he went along. In this talk, Mr. James recalled his profession of faith and the promises he made at the acceptance of Christ. He related his experiences, defeats and successes in the Lord's work. He mentioned that he was one of the organizers of the church and had meant to rest. But since they had re-elected him, he said,"We must stand by the Master in all of our trials every day and every day." "I am going to try to do that", he continued. "This is my testimony in your presence". Then he shook hands with me and with the other elders. The congregational meeting was closed with the singing of "Blest Be The Tie That Binds". And then we held another Session meeting, at which time we went over the roll of the members of the church. A letter was referred to from one of the members, a Japanese national in a concentration camp, who had written that he was all right, that he had not lost his faith, and that he requested their prayers.

The interior of the church has been newly papered and painted and looks quite presentable. The session requested me to write to you stating that they recommend nothing be done to the building for the duration except to keep it in repair. I think this is a wise course at this time.

The session meeting closed at 11:15 and we were all tired out. We went out to a Chinese restaurant for lunch and I was in bed at midnight.

The "Shrimp of Wrangell" left for home at 8 A. M. on the dot next morning and as I waved good-by to George Betts, my prayer was a hope that I had done as much good for our people in Petersburg as they in this short time had done for me personally.

May God bless and direct His work in Alaska.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

H. Harry Chamblin.

ALASKA
PERM. FILE

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSIONARY OF YUKON PRESBYTERY

COLLEGE, ALASKA - APRIL 1942

Dear Friends:

While outside last summer I found many of you particularly interested in one phase of our work which is new--my trip to the westward where I can look straight at one of our nation's allies himself. Well, that which was a remote possibility has now been a fact accomplished. I want to say the sun setting back of those "other world" mountains surely made that country a lovely glow--it was red too. Also the sun rising against those mountains made them all stand out in splendor.

As I was a considerable distance from our North American shore line I, with the few other whites at this place, felt very much isolated and uncertain. This war has never made anyone feel too much at ease in this section of the world. This is very true of this one spot. One feels his mind constantly flitting back to the thought--what would be the best possible way of escape in case of enemy approach, also how best could I leave a scorched earth? Also one relies more on the Heavenly Father in those hours than at any other time. I have become a better Presbyterian with the philosophy, "what is to be, will be".

As mail is to pass censor and we have been given instruction, I must refrain from mentioning dates and places. Anything written is for yourself and in no way to become a matter of publicity. I feel not only a cooperativeness with the government is an essential of my religion, but is the means of giving more safety to those I love who live at such remote spots.

I want to mention, however, that on this 2000 mile trip to and from Fairbanks, I went by dog team, auto, train and plane. The first I enjoyed, but the "airpockets" that the sled hit on the miles of trail were slightly sharp. The north wind was intensely cold. I never had on more clothes in my life and still I crawled in my bed roll, then froze my nose. En route we came to a little settlement where a man took us into a house, without fire but a wind break, where we could eat our lunch. He left, I asked our driver where he was and the answer came, "out of doors." He was out there keeping warm; they always stand outside all the day. What a different world!

My trip by plane was not without incident. We encountered one snow storm and had to put down on a river bed where there was an improvised field. This was not so good. We found a lovely native home close by and what a cook that wife and mother was! The house was modern in every respect, clean and painted. Some say education is bad for the aborigines but I was surely happy that those folks had had plenty of it. On my return by another route I came over territory about which I said years ago "I never want to be caught over those." The high mountains that we admire from ordinary level did not look high at all up there--but they did look sharp.

As to my work--I will again not say too much as it might be cut out. I will say that I did enjoy that new and different people. My arrival was Sunday noon just as worship was completed. Everyone came out to greet the missionary. I was escorted to our mission and in a short time another service was on the docket. What gripped me was how those strange people could sing the Lord's songs

in a strange land. I enjoyed singing those same songs when I was a lad back in Ohio. Now here, so far away, with people that converse in a strange tongue. I enjoyed those songs of old. In the thirty-two days on the Island I had the same experiences over and over.

The Eskimo has a deeply mystical as well as spiritual life. In the long hours of travel I had the opportunity of hearing an experience of prayer. The one who transported me had a certain habit he wanted to get rid of. His life was shackeled and impotent. Time after time he could not find rest or sleep when on long trips from home. One day he just had to pray. As he went by himself and fell on his knees he obtained the victory. When he returned home to tell his folks, he learned that at the same hour his brothers and sisters were on their knees praying for him. He then related how later his old mother, with a background of pagan ways, was won over to Christ the same way.

This habit and experience of a deep prayer life I felt all through my visit. When prayer is given either in English or in the native tongue everyone is attentive to the last man or woman with many "amens" at the close. Seriousness pervades all thoughts and motives. Christ is consulted for most every detail. Commemoration of the Lord's Supper in our Christian Church is an event which makes one deeply medatative. How could I transmit that same feeling and experience to those who but recently heard of that sacrament of our church and only twice participated? How could I get the Elders to distribute the elements with devotion and dignity? Lest I confuse I did not give many instructions beforehand, but step by step as we proceeded I told them quietly what to do. This together with their good sense of reasoning made our Communion a spiritual feast. At one of the villages the young people has a special hymn. The day school teacher played on the organ. As the pupils sang and as the teacher participated in the Lord's Supper one could see tears come to her eyes. She, too, was having a spiritual feast, even tho with another race of people so far to the North, so far to the West, just like she used to experience back in Texas.

But the climate is not always constant and always pleasant in such places. The morning we had communion in one village the snow blew to a gale. Parka hoods were saturated with moisture in going a very short distance. Visibility was certainly small. This meant that mothers with small babies and old people could not get out to church that morning. So twelve babies were baptized in their own homes and no less than fifteen people were served communion after church that morning. Hence the total program for that particular day was Communion service, young people's meeting, officers meeting--both trustees and elders visitors at the manse for special inquiry and visitation of no less than twenty homes for Communion or baptism or both.

A similar experience could be related concerning our Easter Sunrise Service for the Young People's Christian Endeavor in a second village. Snow was coming down so thick that again visibility was registering zero. Thirty-one young folks showed up for that service and the spiritual fellowship revealed that they were amply repaid. At the call for volunteer prayers the response was so rapid and full of fervor, that we remained much longer than we anticipated. I can yet hear one young man pray who came in from a point some sixty miles away with his father and sisters for the week I was to be in the village. His prayer in the native tongue revealed a father who had given his children good Christian training. That father and three older children I received into church membership,

baptising two smaller ones besides. What a deep feeling went over me as I baptised those elderly Eskimo who had given their hearts and lives to Christ.

Another experience I had in a prayer service reveals both response and consecration. After the sermon which about two-thirds understood in my language and had to be regiven through an interpreter I asked those who wished to give their hearts and lives to Christ in a more consecrated and devoted way than ever before to hold up their hands. No less than 80 per cent of the one-hundred and thirty present held up their hands. Again I put the question so there would be still greater searching of heart and life by asking those that desired special prayers to cast out sin and accept Christ to remain after the service to pray with the officers of the church. At that invitation fifteen young women, two young men and ten older men stayed for special prayer. As I learned to know the past modes of living of the folks of the North I could see the heart yearning of those young people, particularly the young women, to get closer to Christ and have the power and ability to discontinue the old customs which they now know to be sinful in their lives. The young women signed their names on a piece of paper and each day we are to remember each other in prayers.

But not all of my time was spent in spiritual inspiration. I had educational work to do. The native is very anxious to know his Bible and that is a good beginning and has great advantage. On this field we have the usual bombardment by some particular religious sect that feels that they and they alone have access to God. Yes, we have this experience constantly in the Arctic as well as you have it in the States. Furthermore it is increasing and it makes the pastor and preacher get "right up on his toes." Well, I had to settle on a few essentials myself so as not to confuse the native mind. For a person who has never seen a car, a train, or a tree, his world is different from ours. You must start with his known world.

This brings me to the close of a lengthly report on what has been a unique and unusual experience in my life. I hope and pray that I can prove worthy of the experience afforded me as I further serve these people and the Church.

Sincerely,

REV. B. J. BINGLE

Sunday School Missionary of
The Yukon Presbytery in Alaska

P. O. Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
May 6, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Dr. King:-

We entertained Presbytery last week and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves. The enclosed article will give you a fair idea of what was done.

The only thing of importance not mentioned in the article is the fact that Presbytery voted to hold the Summer Conference at Wrangell Institute.

It was really too good an offer to turn down. Besides letting us use all of the facilities of the place...they are going to feed us free of charge! The only item of expense will be the usual one of transportation.

We plan to use George Betts boat for the north run - Juneau etc.; and we are chartering a pleasure boat here in Wrangell for the south run - Ketchikan etc. The local boat will cost $12.50 per day and we furnish the gas, oil and skipper. We plan to have Swanson do the honors. He has seen the boat and says she is O.K. The $12.50 does not have to be paid during the conference while the boat is tied up.

Conference dates are June 2 to June 7th.

--- ---

The canning season is six weeks long as you may know. I shall probably be commandeered to work this summer if there are any fish to amount to anything. I suppose we are entitled to a month's vacation. If I wait until I am commandeered to work I may get a job that is not so hot. If I sign up for the six weeks, I can probably pick my job. I still owe $500 on my education and $75 on a mortgage on my car. What is your reaction?

Sincerely,

Harry

May 13, 1942

Rev. Mr. N. Harry Champlin
Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Harry:

Thank you for sending me an account of the meeting of Presbytery. I am very glad that it was possible for you folks to get together at this time. I know that it was a source of inspiration and that the meeting came at a most needy time for all of you.

I was interested to note that you expect to carry on with the Young People's Conference at Wrangell. Certainly you have a very attractive offer.

As to the matter of your signing up for six weeks time for work, I shall have to leave that up to your own good judgment. Of course, under ordinary circumstances the Board does not permit the missionaries to do outside work or receive any pay for additional services but these are unusual times and since there is a question of whether or not you will be commandeered or select your own type of work, it seems to me that the answer is with you. I am quite sure the Board will approve of whatever decision you make.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McB

P. O. Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
June 17, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Supplement to Monthly Report.

Dear Dr. King:-

On June 20th I took the Boy Scouts out by boat for a three day camping trip. It rained considerably, I made a mess of the camp cooking, the boys caught about 50 trout, only one boy got a good scare from a bear whom he thought was another Scout behind him. It was the more or less harmless variety of black bear.

The following week, Mrs. Champlin took the Girl Scouts out for an overnight trip. We arranged for a boat to take the girls to within a half mile of their camping spot, and the next day they walked two and a half miles to the road where I picked them up in the car and brought them back to town.

Forty-two young people arrived here on the evening of June 1st. for the annual Southeast Alaska Presbyterian Young Peoples Summer Conference. Counting myself, there were eight leaders for the group. We had what we all considered, a very successful conference. The leaders were: Miss Maxine Fuller, Miss Wanda Baxter both from SJS; Rev. Verne J. Swanson; Rev. Alfred D. Swogger; Rev. and Mrs. James Hall; Rev. Walter A. Soboleff and myself.

We were royally entertained by Wrangell Institute under the superintendency of Mr. George Barrett. Besides the use of the buildings, light , heat, etc., we were provided with excellent meals served and cooked for us without our lifting a finger and all free of charge.

The Conference group came into Wrangell Sunday via the Institute bus which made two trips each way. Mr. Soboleff preached the sermon with two students assisting in the service.

The closing communion candlelight service was held at the Institute. At this service 10 made a profession of their faith in Christ for the first time. Six dedicated themselves for full time service and twenty-six rededicated their lives to the Master.

The boat travelling north with the conference delegates pulled out Sunday night June 7th. The next morning the boat pulled out for the South. I was on board for the trip to Ketchikan. I considered it a good opportunity to visit Ketchikan and Metlakatla, but the main reason I went was to visit Annette Air Field three miles from Metlakatla where I had a physical examination. I am applying for an appointment as a Chaplain in the Army of the United States. If the quotas are not filled, I shall expect a notice in the next six or eight weeks. If the quotas are full, I don't know what to expect. My name might be kept on file until there is an opening. This all, ofcourse, depends upon whether I passed thephysical and whether they accept me. I will inform you of developments as I receive them. In the meantime, I am going along here just as if nothing else was in the air.

Though the Church has not had an opportunity as yet to act upon your request for $100 for next year, I am sure it will be all right and we will be able to raise it.

I enjoyed the few days I spent with Ruth and Jim Hall. We did a little hand trolling for salmon and when I had one right up to the boat and tried to yank it on board, losing it, Jim said I fished just like Everett King! Evidently you had a similar experience.

Sincerely,

Harry

P. O. Box 439
Wrangell, Alaska
July 15, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Supplement to Monthly report:

Dear Dr. King:

We had a good Vacation Bible School this year with a total enrollment of students and teachers of 70 and an average attendance of 50 for the ten days.

There was a total attendance of 90 at the closing program held Thursday evening of the second week. The next afternoon we closed the school with a picnic for all.

I went on a two-day fishing trip last week and caught 14 good sized cutthroat trout in addition to seeing a grizzly bear swim a Stikine River slough, also saw a young bull moose.

I received your telegram in reference to the Fairbanks Church on the afternoon of the day you sent it but I hesitated in replying until the next day because I was wondering about the appointment for a chaplain hanging in the air. I finally concluded that you must be holding up the ecclesiastical endorsement. I trust I shall be able to do as much good in the one place as the other.

You mentioned September first in your wire and I am wondering if we are to be in Fairbanks by the first or leave here by the first of September. At any rate we should make reservations for transportation as soon as possible because all boats are crowded. Also, I understand that boats going from Juneau to the Westward will not take women and children. So it will probably be necessary for Betty and the boys to fly from Juneau to Fairbanks. The fare is $75.00 for an adult, haven't any idea what it will cost for the boys. The fare from here to Juneau is $10.00 for an adult.

I also thought if I could ship my car to Valdez, I could take a boat to there and drive up the Richardson Highway to Fairbanks. This would give me a chance to take a lot of baggage along with me which could not be taken in a plane and would take quite a lot of extra time and expense to be freighted. There is a chance, however, that I could not get my car to Valdez under present conditions. The

freight on the car from here to Valdez would be $102.00 including wharfage and surcharge. First class boat fare to Valdez is $48.00.

The cheapest, fastest, and surest way for all of us to go from here to Fairbanks is to take the boat to Juneau and the PAA plane from Juneau to Fairbanks...cost about $225.00. Also have $25 or $30 worth of freight to go. It would cost a hundred dollars extra to take the car but I think it would be worth it if it is possible to transport it.

I don't know who you have in mind for Wrangell but I think it would be a good place for Jim and Ruth.

-- -- --

I think it would be a good idea for the Board to take out bomb insurance on all its property in Alaska. Rates are about $1 per thousand. Probably this has already been done to some extent.

Sincerely,

Harry

H. H. Champlin

August 17, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. Harry Champlin
Wrangell, Alaska

Dear Harry:

I am taking it that it is all settled that you are going to Fairbanks the first of September. However, there is one thing that we need to understand before you definitely make the trip and that is, regarding your chaplaincy appointment. I filled out your questionnaire and sent it on in with a recommendation that you be appointed. If you still have this chaplaincy appointment in mind then I do not care to disrupt our program by sending you to Fairbanks to stay there for a short period of time but if you want to accept the Fairbanks appointment in lieu of the chaplaincy work then the green light is on for you to go ahead.

I wish you would wire me your definite decision.

In regard to the travel, it will be perfectly all right for Betty and the boys to fly to Fairbanks. I do not see any other choice. It would be wise for you to ship your car as you suggest to Valdez and then go overland to Fairbanks. Whatever the cost is for your travel will be taken care of by the Fairbanks Church and by the Board.

Thanks for the suggestion about the bomb insurance. This matter is supposed to have been taken care of.

Please wise me what you are going to do about Fairbanks.

Cordially yours,

EBK:McE

First Presbyterian Church

R. ROLLAND ARMSTRONG, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH."

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

October 19, 1942

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. King:

Your last letter referred to a supplement of $50.00 from the Camp and Church activities to be used in work with the boys at Ladd Field. I think we can profitable use the same.

At the present time we find the boys attending all services. One boy is associate superintendent of the Sunday School and conducts the openins service for the older group. He also teaches a boys class.

Though sometimes a dozen attend the morning church service, the biggest attraction for the boys at present seems to be the Christian Endeavor meeting at 6:30 in the evening. About thirty different boys attend, take active part and often act as leaders for the meeting.

When he can get a pass, a baker from the field comes in on Sunday afternoon and bakes pies for the C. E. Social. When he can't make it, coffee and doughnuts are provided. The social is held after the Sunday evening Church service. About ten of the Young People serve as a choir for the evening service and do a good job of it. With a little assistance, I believe we can make a little more of the social hour and probably increase the attendance.

We are considering the possibility of a similar social one night a week. We have a pretty good basement witha couple of ping pong tables, games, radio etc. The basement was open all the time for the soldiers before the USO building came into existence. After it started, I understand, the church did not see why it should carry on. It was the financial end that bothered them, so I am informed. So it is not being used by the boys at present. We have a complete plan for the development of the whole basement with a little kitchenette, another social room, a better heating system, and a few more rooms for Sunday School Classes. It will, ofcourse, take time and money.

I meant to mention above that the C. E. meetings and discussions are on an unusually high spiritual plane. And the group is not satisfied with the "Society Quarterly" put out by our board, neither do they like the Christian Endeavor World. I thought perhaps something

First Presbyterian Church

R. ROLLAND ARMSTRONG, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 17:18

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Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

like Dr. Kerr's "Faith and Life" might be used. Perhaps you have some suggestions. I would like to get something for them that would satisfy their needs.

The soldier who led the meeting last Sunday night is from the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Dayton, Ohio. He came around to me for a little assistance with his subject and in the course of the conversation, he said that the first time he attended the C. E. here ~~if~~ he figured it would be as dry as all the rest of them! But he was happily surprised to find that it was different and he has attended ever since.

I would also like to provide copies of "Today" for all the boys as well as our own Testaments and spiritual guide, or devotional guide I believe it is called.

We have made it a practice to have a different boy in our home each Sunday, this could easily be increased to two. The boy last Sunday happened to mention that it was the first time he had been out for dinner.

Though I have visited the Field twice, I have not had a service of any kind. This is a possibility and ofcourse transportation enters the picture.

We have also been trying to do some work with the Presbyterian Students at the College, bringing them in on special occassions.

I think as the months come and go we will see many different ways of being of more service to the boys and the students, as well. Most of the students are probably pre-service boys. They all expect to be called.

I would appreciate any suggestions you may have to offer.

Sincerely,

Harry

November 16, 1942

AIRMAIL

Rev. Mr. N. Harry Champlin
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Harry:

Since it is not possible to get packages through to Barrow and Wainwright at this time of year, we have sent several books for these two points in your care to be forward on by plane when you can send them off. Mr. Armstrong has taken care of such matters for us in the past and trust that you will not mind helping us out in the future. We shall greatly appreciate it.

Cordially yours,

McE

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

April 1, 1943

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. King:-

Received your letter yesterday relative to the Fire Extinguisher which Wien Alaska Airlines carried to Point Barrow. There was no record of the weight of the extinguisher so Wien's wired Fred Klerekoper to ascertain, if possible, the weight so they could make out a statement accordingly.

The wire was sent yesterday about an hour after your letter was received. At eleven this morning, there was no reply so I wired you as follows: [redacted]

The wheels, it seems, were too large to carry in the plane so they were left behind. Probably sled runners are more practical.

Sorry, could not give you any more accurate information, but thought your office might have record of original billing which would show the freight rate and weight.

#315 4.12.43

Thank you for having the "Robe" and "This Is Victory" sent to me. Would also appreciate your having a copy of Chappell's "Sermons from Revelation" sent to me, also a copy of "The Practice of the Christian Life" by Edwin Lewis. The enclosed check for $4.84 will cover the cost of these books minus the discount, I believe.

Just led the devotions and installed the new officers of the Ladies Aid organization.

3121 - 4/12/43

Sincerely,

N. Harry

N. H. Champlin

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"--Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

August 11, 1943

Dr. Everett B. King
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Dr. King:

I brought Betty and the baby home from the hospital yesterday - both are doing quite well. (In case the announcement did not reach you, we were blessed with a third son on July 31st.)

We started to fix up the house while Betty was in the hospital; originally planning to put celotex on all the outside walls. But as the work progressed, we found it necessary to line all the walls downstairs, papered one room, painted another and are in the process of papering a third. Also have new linoleum in the kitchen and need it in the dining room and hall. We plan to line the outside walls and ceilings of the upstairs rooms before we finish. We have expended about $350.00 worth of labor and materials and have had as much labor donated as we have hired. It will take another two or three hundred dollars to finish the job. Would it be possible to get this amount through the War Industries? We will sincerely appreciate anything you can do.

As you may remember the property here, it is almost completely taken up with buildings. There is a ten foot strip of land at the rear of the church and it is necessary to use the next door property to deliver coal to the rear of the manse. There is a one story well appointed house and garage on the adjoining property at the rear of the church. The property is for sale and we can buy it for $6,000.00. The Elders and Trastees are in favor of doing so, and very soon, as there are two other parties interested in buying the same. We plan to have a Congregational meeting a week from Sunday (August 22) to bring the matter before the whole church. The trustees are willing to put up half of the cost and wonder if the Board of National Missions could loan us the other half at a low rate of interest. It would make a splendid manse and the present manse could be rented until such time as our program expanded and we needed the extra room for Sunday School rooms etc. If Fairbanks has the future that is predicted - we shall very much need this additional property. Can the Board give us a Loan? (This should not affect the above as we would not move until next year, as there is no

stoker in the other house. By the above, I mean, a grant for repairs to the present manse). Thank you for anything you can do.

Mr. Leslie Judd, an Elder, lives a mile south of us on the highway . Perhaps you visited his place when you were here. He has a big house, barn, chicken coops, greenhouse all steam heated by a boiler in the basement of the house. Fifteen acres go with the house, and several of them are under cultivation. It would be a good place for Rev. Bingle to live now, and if Crawford is located here, the house could be made into two appartments. The fifteen acres and buildings can be bought for $16,000. Now, I am not asking anyone to purchase this, but if the Board of National Missions is interested in putting down some stakes for the future and providing a place for Rev. Bingle at present, this proposition is worth considering.

You requested some information relative to the value of our present property. I believe I gave the letter to Einar Tonseth but I am not sure, anyway, I do not have it. He set our total valuation of Church and Manse at $20,000. The property is vested in the name of the trustees of the Church.

We would appreciate a wire, collect, on your results in reference to the first two items - namely: a grant for repairs to the present manse, and a loan for purchase of a new manse.

We are hoping to see you in these parts in a month.

Sincerely,

Harry

N. Harry Champlin

NHC

First Presbyterian Church

Seventh and Cushman
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA

"The Community Church With A Christian Program"

N. Harry Champlin, Minister

Mrs. Chester Moyer, Choir Director

Fred B. Koschmann, Pianist

God shall supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19

SUNDAY AUGUST 8, 1943

DIVINE WORSHIP AT ELEVEN O'CLOCK

PRELUDE "Chanson Triste" Tschaikowsky
Sgt. Joseph J. Esrey, Jr.

OPENING HYMN "Come Thou Almighty King" No. 52

CALL TO WORSHIP
Minister: The Lord is in his holy temple.
People: Let all the earth keep silence before him.
Minister: O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
People: Fear before him, all the earth.

INVOCATION THE LORD'S PRAYER GLORIA PATRI

RESPONSIVE READING Selection 61

HYMN "Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus" No. 265

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

PASTORAL PRAYER CHORAL RESPONSE

TENOR SOLO "Teach Me To Pray" Jewitt
Cpl. Robert J. Hubbell

OFFERTORY "Lullaby" Brahms

OFFERING DOXOLOGY THE PRESENTATION

We give Thee but Thine own,
What-e'er the gift may be:
All that we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

SERMON - By Capt.G.P. Weiss, ON OVERCOMING FEAR

HYMN "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind" No. 302

BENEDICTION CHORAL RESPONSE THE POSTLUDE

****

Chaplain Weiss, U. S. Army, now stationed at Nome, was formerly assistant at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

The Mariners Club is planning a picnic outing for this Thursday. Please notify Mrs. Einar Tonseth or Mrs. Rex Wood if you can go, and, by the way - you are invited.

August 19, 1943

AIR MAIL

Rev. Mr. N. Harry Champlin
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Harry:

I have your letter dated August 11, and today I sent you a wire stating that the first request looked favorable, but, of course, I cannot give you any definite assurance that the money will come through. I have sent in a request today urging that the Camp and Church Activities Committee match your $350.00. I hope the money will be forthcoming, and if it is, I shall send you the check as soon as it is received.

In regard to the adjoining property at the rear of the church that is for sale. I am sure it would be a wise thing for the church to purchase this property. The figure of $6000.00 sounds like a reasonable amount of money to pay. I am sorry that it is not possible at this present time to tell you that the Board can grant a loan on the property. It is possible, within the next thirty days, for me to get this request through, but at the present time I cannot give you any assurance. Even without securing the loan from the Board it seems to me that it would be the wise thing for the church to proceed to purchase the property and to secure the loan elsewhere.

I appreciate what you say about the $16,000.00 expenditure for the property south of the highway. I doubt whether or not this property would make any appeal to the Board. However, I am going to carry through some investigations and see where I land.

Please accept my hearty congratulations on the arrival of your third son. I did not know that he was coming along. I am glad to hear that both Betty and the baby are doing well.

Cordially yours,

EBK/mk

Savoonga, Alaska
May 15, 1944

Dear Mr. Champlin, -

I have just written to the Rev. J. Earl Jackman in reply to a recent letter from him in regard to my salary and the financial outlook for the current year. The conclusion I came to is the simple fact that I am forced to hand in my resignation, effective in 1945. It will take me until then to get squared with the New York office and even then I'd be in debt to them if I had no resources other than this docked salary arrangement. The facts are these:

salary check, less tax deductions,	$88.40
proposed deductions to pay 1943-44 grocery bill (of $600.00)	50.00
	$38.40
conservative estimate of 1944-1945 grocery bill (per mo)	35.00
	$ 3.40
rent for the Eskimo house I live in here at Savoonga	5.00
deficit	?.—

You might justly inquire about checks received this past winter. Mr. Armstrong assured me that the Yukon Presbytery (or this church) would be responsible for sending me here at Nome prices. I knew I couldn't afford it. Planning my budget on that basis & just borrowed a War Bond that takes what savings I had. My coal bill is not paid, so my credit is not good at Point's. Yours truly, Anna Martin

International House.
500 Riverside Drive
Ft 37.

First Presbyterian Church

JUN 19 1944

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"--Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Alaska file

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

June 11, 1944

Rev. Mr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jackman:

You were correct in your assumption that I might be irritated and disappointed when the Commission rejected my application for a chaplaincy. I was both because they took their cue from the Board of National Missions and I thought we had the matter straightened out. I did, however, accept their decision for the time being because I did not know what else to do. I thought I would wait six months, apply again ans see to it that nothing happened, even if I had to leave here to do it.

Feeling that I would be here for several months, I went ahead just as if nothing happened. We have the room over the kitchen in the church hafl done. The furnace in the basement has been moved, the pipes are all down and the whole heat unit is being renovated and reinstalled. Hope to dig out the rest of the basement before the summer is over. The Manse will be painted within the next few weeks, and the front porch is being altered.

Have had Vacation Bible School one week with 70 enrolled. Have one week to go and will end with an all church picnic. The last two weeks of June I hope to assist with the 4 H encampments at Lake Harding 46 miles south of us. And the second week in July, they want me to assist with the Boy Scout camp at the same place. Sure wish I had someone around to assist with the work so I could feel realy free to assist with these functions atleast on week days.

In reference to the helper who has been on her way here more or less for several months - wish you would use what information you picked up about our establishment and the program here. I will, however, list a few qualifications but I don't expect anyone to fill all of them.

I would suggest a Christian young lady who is used to being around the church and has, as a matter of interest, taken active part in its program and activities. That is, provided we cannot get a trained religious worker, which is ofcourse, preferable.

She should have a positive personality, initiative, imagination and an expectant outlook.

She should not find it difficult to talk to people.

We need someone who can type, cut a stencil, organize activities for the Junior group, or senior group. One who could on accasion, fill in as a Sunday School teacher. One who can be a leader with the young people.

We need someone who can fit into our program and then lead it on to something more effective.

We need someone who will assist with a survey of the city and then follow up helping the unchurched to find a church home.

I would like to have someone assist me a couple hours a day in the study planning our program, assisting with church business and correspondence, assisting with my radio program, various reports etc.

It would be good to have someone who would not feel hurt if any organization in the church called upon her for assistance.

I believe that will give you some idea of what we have in mind But as I said at the outset, we don't expect to find all of those qualifications in one person.

We shall be thankful for anyone you send who has a keen desire to help.

Getting back to the chaplaincy. It seemed to me too, that if this place is recognized as being important enough to keep me here, it certainly ought to rate some assistance. From the enclosed, you may see that other denominations are getting interested in this locality. Practically every week someone come in here who is supposed to be a minister of some denomination not here in Fairbanks. They all want to get their finger in the pie. We have the strongest Protestant church in town. We may even be stronger than the Roman Catholic church. We need to be on our toes.

From all this, you may discern that I feel rather tied down for a few months. The progress and developments and cooperation undoubtedly will have much to do with keeping me here or causing me to reapply for a chaplaincy in six months. This is not a threat, it is just that I want to do what I should do.

You are undoubtedly aware of the activities on St. Lawrence Island. The enclosed correspondence will inform you of all I know. It is too bad Percy feels he must leave just when we though everything was setteld over there.

By now you probably know that what was bothering Fred were the prospects of a bunch of construction workers in his midst or else a mushroom village twenty or thirty miles from him and a general evacuation of his own village on account of the work available in the new location. He wanted to be sure he could go with them with a full program and even build a church if necessary.

Note

I spent $6.90 in reference to Percy. He wired Armstrong in reference to his leaving but shince Rolland was away, Miss Braun phoned me about him and I in turn wired Percy. I told him to stay put, but he did not value my advice. Am presenting said bill.

It is eleven thirty but the sky is bright and the sun is barely below the horizon. It never gets dark these days.

By the way, considering the fact that I am not due to go to General Assembly until 1948 maybe I better come outside now and interview my prospective assistant!!!!

Sincerely,

Harry

N. Harry Champlin

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

July 9, 1944
10:45 P.M.

Rev. Mr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jackman:

Enclosed please find report from Ann Martin and letter attached. Sorry about here difficulties. Presbytery's National Missions Committee misrepresented to her, unintentionally, the Board's policy. The chairman thought the members of the committee knew what it was all about but it turned out they were just as ignorant as he. Trust you will be able to straighten out the matter with her directly.

Enclosed you will also find Percy's wire to me and my reply. Unless his family stays with him, Percy will never stay on the Island alone if he is typical of his race. We should be looking for someone to take his place. How about Fred's Elder Roy Ahmagook? Mr. Bingle also suggested an elderly lady named Mrs. Swanson, wife of an Elder at Palmer. Seeme she has a desire to go to St. Lawrence anyway. Perhaps she could hold things together along with her elderly husband until a definite arrangement is made. Be sure food and fuel is on the Island for someone for the next year. If Percy hasn't put in his order - better duplicate his last order. It is always possible to sell anything not used.

The preacher with the plane which stopped at St. Lawrence is Rev. Wood - head of the Seventh Day Adventist church with headquarters in Juneau. He is making a tour of all their mission points. Went through here this last week. Their church is closed up here in town.

Also enclosed is a note from Fred and some government fodder. Considering the pile of junk I have around my study that I never seem to have time to get to - I reckon it is a simple thing to overlook important items for months on end.

In answer to your letter of June 30th might say that I feel the present is a very poor time to change horses in this field - but one should not have such an attitude indefinitely or he will become an FDR the second!

Kindly send helper at earliest possible time. Could use her immediately to excellent advantage.

Faithfully yours,

N. Harry Champlin

(over)

P. S. July 10th

Went down to mail this letter & found yours of the 7th

By all means have Miss Bechtel stop in Anchorage if she comes that way.

If there is any delay in her leaving - suggest she come derick by air - Canadian Pacific or P.A.A. C.P.A. becomes a civilian line at end of this month. Probably just as reasonable as boat & train.

We'll be looking for her.

W.H.C.

July 21, 1944

VIA AIRMAIL

The R. Harry Champlin
Seventh and Cushman Streets
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Harry:

Thank you for your letter of July ninth with its enclosures about Percy and Anna Martin. It is my understanding that Percy has gone to the mainland for a month's vacation in which he will take his family on to his wife's home. We received permission from the office to do this but we are expecting and depending upon him to return to Gambell. If he will return for this winter, we shall try to make some permanent provision for Gambell. Miss Bannan has suggested that we should get a white man and his wife who have had some experience with orientals. Percy has ordered a supply of food for next winter so we feel that he intends to stand by us in this emergency.

I have written a second letter to Anna Martin presenting to her our difficulty in getting full information on agreements on her relationship with the Board. This seems to have quite a history behind it. We have offered to make considerable concession to her on the basis of her own judgement of fairness in order to keep her for the field. We ought to hear from her by early September and have the matter straightened out. We are planning for a new Church for Savoonga when the war is over and need her there to help direct it.

We are glad to have the report from Fred on his benevolences. It indicates that he is trying to meet the quota for the year.

We are delighted to learn of the settled state of your mind in regard to Fairbanks and your decision against changing horses in your field. We are moving as rapidly as we can to get you some help. Things have been completed now for Miss Bechtel to go as soon as she is available; as we reported to you would be in September. She cannot leave hom until the seventh and we will hurry her along as fast as we can.

Miss Bechtel has raised the question about getting some books to bring with her toward a parish library. She also suggests handcraft materials recommended by one of her professors at Union. She will have some room in her trunk to bring a moderate amount of some material. There has been no pro-

vision made here for this purpose and we do know that you are receiving an allowance for program through the Camp and Church Activity Committee. Would you want to make some of this available for her to make this purchase before she goes? We shall not take any action on this until we hear from you on this.

Sincerely yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK
Enc. copy of Inst. for Alaskan Miss'y Supplies

JAN 22 1945

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

January 18, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10, New York

Dear Mr. Jackman:

Had a wedding this morning at 7:30! The couple wanted to catch the 8:20 train for Anchorage. It seems an odd time to get married, especially up here when it is pitch dark at that hour and for several hours thereafter during these winter months.

At 2:00 this after I have a commital service for an Eskimo baby that died from diphtheria. There seems to be a slight epidemic in the Eskimo village. Doubt if we will have much of a service if any, for the Eskimoes until this is over. They have been very faithful since we started to have a special service for them about a year ago. You should watch their faces when I sing one of their songs with them in Eskimo.

According to Miss Bechtel, you have decided to take care of her living expenses. Einar Tonseth was supposed to have written to you the first week in December but understand he did not. You have, however, received a letter from him by now I am sure. I don't know what he wrote but guess that he conveyed the idea that the church would just as soon not take care of her rent.

After all we did spend over $2000.00 cash on improvements since last spring and at the present moment our treasury is flat.

I thought everything was harmonious again at Savoonga but evidently such is not the case. It must be a very difficult field and if a person has the idea they are mintreated, that, ofcourse, adds to the burden.

There was something else I wanted to mention but can't think of it now. It will have to wait until the next time.

The enclosed copy of a letter received yesterday is very good isn't it?

Sincerely,

Harry

I wanted to thank you
for the copy of "The Disciple"
which you sent. I got my
ideas for last week's sermons
from pages 8 and 9.

W.W.C.

(This is a copy of a letter received from Gen.Gaffney)

HEADQUARTERS ALASKAN DIVISION
AIR TRANSPORT COMMAND
APO 462 MINNEAPOLIS MINNESOTA

ALSD/CHAP/PER

15 January 1945

Rev. N. Harry Champlin
Fairbanks, Alaska

Reverend and dear Sir:

As Commanding General of the Alaskan Division, Air Transport Command, I want to express my gratitude for the splendid service you have rendered our personnel during the past year. While we have made every effort to supply sufficient chaplains to care for the spiritual needs of our men, it would have been impossible to have fulfilled this objective without the help which you so generously contributed.

We fully realize that character and morale are inward qualities motivated and kept alive by religious convictions. Not only have you satisfied the desire on the part of our men for worship, but you have also aided us greatly in building and maintaining the high morale of our Division. It is these qualities which have made it possible for us to successfully accomplish the mission entrusted to us in this Division. I realize that in rendering these services to our men you have often been called upon to make great personal sacrifices. Kindly accept my personal thanks and the gratitude of the United States Army for your consecrated efforts in our behalf.

Yours sincerely,

(Signature)
DALE V. GAFFNEY
Brigadier General
Commanding

Copy also sent
to Dr Getty

FEB 26 1945

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"--Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

February 20, 1945

Rev. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jackman:

Just received the enclosed letter which Bert wrote in Nome yesterday. Am forwarding it on to you immediately.

I believe the letter clears up the whole situation as far as Percy and Wales are concerned. Trust that the recommendations that Percy's back checks be sent to him will be carried out.

The note at the bottom refers to Mrs. Ipalook who, Bert says, will be in Wales sometime this spring.

We are planning to have Presbytery meet here in Fairbanks convening April 18th. Alaska Presbytery is planning to meet the second week in April. Thus it will be possible for you to attend both meetings.

If you desire to come in this direction first and then go to Southeast Alaska afterwards, we will change our meeting to the first week in April.

Sent some car parts to Fred Klerekoper last week by Army pilot but have not heard from him personally, so do not know just when he plans to leave.

Sincerely,

Harry

N. Harry Champlin

nhc

HIGHWAY MISSION

FEB 24 1945

A Sermon delivered at Fairbanks, February 11, 1945 by N. Harry Champlin, paster of the First Presbyterian Church, Fairbanks, Alaska.

Francis Bacon in an essay on "Travel" says that he who goes forth to travel does not merely travel but goes to school as well. There is no better place to attend such a school than here in Alaska. In the years to come, thousands upon thousands will be headed in this direction to attend this same school. According to Friday's local newspaper, 40,000 inquiries a month are received in Washington, D. C. for information about Alaska. Well, this morning I would like to take you to school along the Alaska Military Highway.

We start out from the church here at 6:30 on a Thursday morning with the Rev. B. J. Bingle in his Plymouth Sedan which is heavily loaded. Mr. Bingle is our War-Time Service Highway Chaplain. The first stop is 48 miles out at an Alaska Road Commission camp where we leave some church literature, the latest newspaper and have a cup of coffee! Throughout the trip there are many of these unscheduled stips when we look in for a few minutes - leave a few things and are on our way.

Eighty miles out we meet our first test. Water has been flowing over the highway and in the sub-zero weather it has been building up layer upon layer of ice. Trucks going through cut a channel which was filled with water and banked with walls of ice. Being the first car along in many hours, there was a half-inch layer of ice over the water. We knew we couldn't get through the way it was so we spent the next hour in the bitter cold chopping ice ditches in an effort to drain the water off the road. But there was a continual flow and we were making no headway. Finally a Road Commission tractor appeared on the scene. The driver tried to discourage us saying it would ruin the car to take it through. "Come back tomorrow", he said, "and we'll have a detour made."

He was looking out for our welfare to be sure - but there is a tendency of people to take all the edge off of life for others. I liked Mr. Bingle's comment, "If I always took everyone's advice - I never would get down the road and would be spending most of my time at home." As for myself, I am a firm believer in the old

saw: "Nothing ventured, nothing gained." Young pilots are picked for combat flying because they have a tendency to be uncautious. And who can measure what we owe to them today? Jesus could have saved His life by walking away from Jerusalem - but instead He walked straight into the maelstrom. In our case there was, ofcourse, no personal danger connected with the situation. There was the chance that the car would be damaged and our trip would end there.

Well, the tractor hooked on to us with a big log chain and literally dragged us for perhaps a half mile through the ice and water. Cakes of ice crunched under the car. The water rose above the running boards and froze as it splashed on the sides of the car. But we got through with no damage done. Ice formed around the end of the shifting rod and we ran a long ways in second gear but this was quickly fixed at the next stip - Big Delta.

Pfc. Henry Vander Giessen is one of the boys in the Big Delta station of the Alaska Communication System. He was with us for a year, was our Young People's president and led the singing for the Evening Services. Now, he is a leader in the Christian work at Delta. Van set a fine dinner for us of baked ham and some of the potatoes from the 100 lb sack he had asked Mr. Bingle to bring down. Some of the other items we delivered along the raod in the course of the trip were $22 worth of groceries to an Indian woman near Big Gerstle who, with a small boy, had been standing in the cold on the highway for four hours waiting for us. She said she was out of sugar and coffee too. These we purchased down the road and delivered to her on the return trip. We delivered a radio to one man, left a phonograph and records at a maintenance camp and packages of phonograph needles were left at various places. I wondered how Mr. Bingle kept all the things straignt. As a matter of fact, he didn't! On a previous trip, someone had given him a watch to be repaired and he tried to get rid of it several times on this trip. Finally, at one place, the owner came up to him and asked for the watch. We bought the latest magazines in some of the more populated camps and left them in isolated places. We also took a schoolteacher with an infected finger to an Army doctor for treatment.

The meal Van prepared for us was typical of all our meals throughout the trip. People were cordial and hospitable . . . and received us warmly. We drove up to one road maintenance camp in Canada at 10:30 at night, not having had supper. We usually tried to make these places at mealtime but sometimes we missed. The cook, upon learning this, fried eggs and bacon for us and served it with toast and coffee. We had atleast one chicken dinner and tow turkey dinners among the many other delicious meals. At first I tried to pay for these meals, but all along the trail our money seemed to be no good. This is a tribute to the services Mr. Bingle has held up and down the highway, and the interest he has taken in the people, and the acts of kindness he has done since the first contruction of the road began. You will recall the Old Testament preacher who said: "Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days." Jesus in Luke tells us to "Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give unto your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again."

The night before we lift Fairbanks, Mr. Bingle had announced over KFAR "Tundra Topics" (news items of interest for outlying districts) that he would be at Midway at 4 p.m. with a passenger to go to Tetlin to bring mail and hold services. When some of the children in that village heard the radio announcement, the schoolteacher later told us, they ran to her and excitedly blurted out, "The preach - she come!" We arrived at Midway which is just beyond Tanacross at 6 o'clock. Though we were two hours late, we found two dogsleds and drivers dutifully waiting to take us the twelve miles to the Indian village of Tetlin.

Mr. Bingle had warned me that riding on a dogsled could be very cold going. So, t ough I looked forward to my first ride with keen anticipation, this was also mingled with a feeling of apprehension. I pulled on extra trousers, sweaters, mukluks and fur mittens. It was my first time to wear mukluks too, and when I stepped out of the car my feet kept trying to slide out from under me. Well, we had a pow-wow with the Indians for a while then they piled our sleeping bags and other things on the sleds. I climbed on one and we were off with a dash. That ride was a

thrill that I never expect to forget. Though it was sixteen degrees below zero, I was so stuffily bundled up that I felt quite comfortable. It was a beautiful trip with the moonlight turning the snow into sparkling diamonds - as we glided along the trail noiselessly over the frozen lakes, through the woods while the Indian driver softly whistled to the trotting dogs.

Two hours later we were in the Indian village eating roast beef supper in the white teacher's home. At 10:30 pm we all gathered in the schoolhouse for church. An hour later I showed some of my kodachrome slides. About midnight we went back to the house where Mr. Bingle married a young couple. After a little celebration with fancy cake and coffee followed by games, we managed to crawl into our sleeping bags about 2 am.

Later that morning we were up and ready to leave but there were no dogsleds in sight. The Indians had decided we were going to stay "two sleeps" as they put it. They don't believe in rushing around. They have two speeds according to the school-teacher - "slow and stop". Finally, however, we impressed upon them that we could only stay "one sleep" and had to leave. About noon the first sled appeared and Mr. Bingle was informed it was for him. You don't tell Indians about such things, they tell you. Well, he climbed on and started out. A half hour later my sled overtook him waling along the trail. His steel runner sled did not glide over the snow as easily as the toboggan-type sled I was on. My driver seemed to have no sympathy for him as we breezed right by, soon coming upon his sled. My driver determinedly said: "Get off the trail", and we passed without further ado. Their philosophy must be - "every man for himself". We made the twelve miles with five dogs in one hour and forty minutes. When Mr. Bingle finally appeared - it turned out he had walked 3 miles, and had run along driving his team for three miles while his tired driver rode!

We held services that night in the civilian mess hall at Tanacross and another service in the Indian village across the Tanana River at 10:00 pm. When we arrived at the latter place, the little log church was full of men, women and children who had been waiting an hour for us to appear. Personally, I find it difficult to imagine any white congregation waiting an hour for the preacher to appear for a church service.

And so it went down the highway - holding services in American and Canadian road maintenance camps, at a Standard oil pipeline pumping station, at a C.A.A. station and for the Canadian Airmen at Snag. One service was held at 6:30 am at Tok Junction before the road men and soldiers went to work. We held services at noon when the men came in for dinner. Many services were held in the evenings and on Sunday afternoons. The singing was always good, the attention perfect. Indeed, the services were a real inspiration to me....and I believe to all who participated. We drove through to Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, a little over 600 miles from Fairbanks. The highway was in perfect condition - smooth - well maintained. It winds its way through beautiful rugged mountains and beside lakes one of which, Kluane Lake is some 60 miles long. On separate occasions a red fox and a coyote dashed across the road in front of us. But we were always constantly reminded of civilization by the ever present telephone plies which carry four circuits all the way to the States. And to keep the soldier-like poles company is the Canol pipeline which stretches hundreds of unbroken miles from Fairbanks to Whitehorse connecting up with the Norman Wells oil fields.

At Whitehorse we took an unscheduled side-trip over the White Pass and Yukon narrow-gauge railroad down to Skagway. "Down"is the correct word. The last twenty miles there is a drop of 2900 feet. Because of the steep climb and the addition of snowdrifts as high as the train, on the return trip we had six engines and a rotary plow hauling our train. In the days of '98 our pioneer missionary, Dr. S. Hall Young, walked over this pass with the tens of thousands of gold-rushers headed for Dawson. At Bennett Lake we took a picture of the remains of the Presbyterian Church which was built when all those thousands camped along the lake and constructed all kinds of floating crafts on which they travelled over the lakes and down the Yukon to the gold fields. The church was never quite compledted but served its purpose at the time.

Likewise, along the Alaska Highway - many camps are now boarded up, but when they were filled with men, church services were held by our Highway Chaplain. It goes without saying that wherever people are they need to be reminded of the Way of

Life taught by Christ. They need opportunities to worship together for their spiritual uplift. They need to be reminded constantly of things Eternal. And they year for these services even as we do.

On this historic trip over the railroad, we kept wishing aloud that one of our Southeast Alaska Mission boats would be in port when we arrived in Skagway. Well, none were in port - but, three hours after we arrived, our mission boat the "Princeton-Hall" docked, the two ministers and elder on board not having the slightest knowledge we were in Skagway. We had just finished supper at the home of our new Skagway minister and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fredsell, when in walked Rev. Paul Prouty - missionary on the Princeton*Hall, Rev, Walter Soboleff, pastor of Young Memorial Church in Juneay, and Elder Andrew Wanamaker - Captain of the Princeton-Hall. As we five minister and elder from the north and south sat around together in fine fellowship, we realized the great possiblity of joint meetings of all the Alaskan workers from both presbyteries - Alaska and Yukon.

Next morning we all took passage on the Princeton-Hall over to Haines where we paid our Haines House orphanage a short visit and then drove up the highway to the Indian village of Klukwan - 23 miles. We spent the day visiting in the community holding a church service and communion service that night. Three infants and an adult were baptized.

We had a most unique experience after the service. Half of the people had left the church when Walter Soboleff beckoned us to beseated. He spoke several minutes in Thlinget during which we recognized the words "seventy and seven". One of the old men had not taken communion becuase he was angry with one of the other men in the community. There, in church he had asked to be forgiven. The two men stood up in front of the church, shook hands and with their hands clasped, we ministers placed our hands upon theirs as prayer was offered. Then each of the two spoke in Thlinget experdsing the great satisfaction that was his now that he was at peace with the other. Then the old fellow received communion. It was indeed a solemn occasion- which went far towards carrying out Jesus words: "If thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift

before the altar and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift." Jesus, ofcourse, went one step further and asked the innocent party to seek out his offending brother and be reconciled to him. How seldom we realize all that is included in the Christian Way of Life.

With all these events to think about we drove back to Haines. The water in Lynn Canal was so rough it seemed unwise to remain tied to the dock over night so we pulled out for Skagway. We shipped a little water from the rough seas but docked safely about 4 a.m. with a thin coating of ice over the entire boat. At noon the boat headed back for Juneau. We spent the day in Skagway - entraining for Whitehorse the next morning with the Rev. Harold Fredsell accompaning us. On the way back up the highway we stopped for services at places we missed on the way down.

Needless to say, we men a good many interesting people throughout the trip. We picked up an old prospector near Snag and took him over 200 miles into Whitehorse. Here - we would find a Presbyterian Elder from Kansas doing his part of the war effort in the far north. There - we would find an Australian-born Canadian who broke down as he told us about his son in England who had been wounded. With all the young men gone from Vancouver, he could not be satisfied to remain at home - so took the job of foreman of a road maintenance camp thousands of miles from nowhere. Several of thw workers were returned veterans who had seen service in France and Africa - one who had been wounded a few months ago. One man was with the first convoy to Malta. He told how of 87 ships in his convoy, 40 were lost - his own ship hit by a torpedo and badly crippled. The commanding officer of the military guard asked this man to see how the 32 military guards on the ship were taking the ordeal. He said every last man was lying on his bunk with Bible in hand - most of who he was sufe had to get it out of the bottom of their duffle bag. Surely our Heavely Father does hear every uttered prayer and receives our every act of worship - but how much more helpful it is when the words we read are familiar to us and the act of praying is natural to us.

During our twelve-day trip, we covered 1250 miles by highway, 24 by dogsled, 230 by train and 30 by boat. We held ten regular preaching church services, four short prayer services and I showed my kocachrome slides eleven times - for the most part to people who had never seen kodachrome slides. Mr. Bingle showed his slides three times in Skagway - at the Manse, to the Ladies Aid, and at the Catholic Orphanage.

And that is a picture of the school we attended as we visited this Highway Mission.

Whether we travel literally very much or not - we are all pilgrims on the Highway of Life. The lessons we learn from actual travel should remind us, that inspite of everything, there is more to life than an endless journey in which men and women go on and on in the weary, monotonous, aimless existence of birth, life and death. Travelling is made quite simple in the states by route numbers by which one may reach any chosen destination. Here in Alaska, there is usually only one road to a place - so the mileposts remind us how far we have gone and how far to go. The Christian Way of Life is well marked too. Some of the signposts we saw this morning are Perseverence - Service - Kindness - Love for fellow men - Industriousness and Forgiveness. "And a highway shall be there, and a way, and it shall be called the way of holiness." Isaiah 35:8.

nhc

February 27, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. N. Harry Cramplin
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Harry:

We have received a letter from Mr. Tonseth concerning the arrangements for Miss Bechtel and I have written him about them. We realize the financial responsibilities of the Church and do not want to overload or retard the progress which has been made.

We rejoice in the trip which you had over the Alaska Highway and are grateful for the copy of the fine sermon which you gave to your people after that trip. We commend you highly on this message. A telephone conversation with Dr. Speers of the Central Church here the other day brought words of glowing praise for you and your wife in the good work which you are doing. Dr. Speers sent me a copy of his report to his congregation in which he praised you highly for your ministry.

Thank you for the report on the situation at Wales. The difficulty here lies in the fact that Percy did not send us one word of his whereabouts or conditions. The information which we had was from other people. We knew he had gone back to Gambell in September to get his things. Miss Stauffer talked to him at Nome on her way out. He asked for the month of November off with no salary to be with his wife in Kotzebue during the arrival of a baby (did they have another baby; we don't know). The latter part of December we wired him asking for a report on his family and his whereabouts. He wired back that his family was well and he was waiting for transportation to Wales. We have heard nothing from him from that time to a letter which came February twenty-fourth billing us for his plane transportation from Gambell to Nome and Nome to Wales. Then we received your letter and the letter from Bert to you. We paid him every month except November up to the first of the year; having no information as to his whereabouts we held up his checks for January and February until we should know where he is. If he has been left stranded I feel it is largely his own fault. He needed to but send us information and we would have been glad to understand his situation and cooperate with him.

We are sending him the check for the plane transportation and his January and February salary checks. As Bert points out, he may have been "ordered" to St. Lawrence Island and, if so, we do have a responsibility for the health difficulties which arose in that assignment. Perhaps this will not be completely straightened out until I see him the latter part of April or early May. However, we trust that we may retain his services and treat him fairly.

We have noted the statement of Miss Martin that she is leaving the Island about March first. We have a replacement for her in Miss Alice Green who has been a Sunday school missionary in Starks, Maine. Miss Green's home is in Denver and she has asked to go to Alaska and will hope to arrive on the field about May first. We are proceeding with arrangements for her.

We have had no further word from Fred so we are still in the dark. A mimeographed letter from Nan in October which just came to our attention last week indicated they hope to come out in April but we have nothing definite. We have made an appeal in Monday Morning for a couple to replace them and have had one inquiry which looks good but the man is under commitment in his present location and I doubt if anything will develop from it. We are earnestly praying that we may be led to the right couple for that field of service.

We have been examining the list of workers in the Presbytery of Yukon and the Commissioners to General Assembly. From all appearances it would seem to be your turn to go. The Assembly will be held probably on the basis of one Commissioner from each Presbytery throughout the Church. It will not be held in Minneapolis but along the mainland some place which will be more accessible. I don't know exactly when or where yet but this information should be available soon.

In considering the matter of your attendance at the Assembly, if that is the decision of the Presbytery, I feel we have a responsibility toward you on transportation. Inasmuch as your way will be paid to the Assembly and back, arrangements ought to be made for you to bring your family and to have more time in the States than just the period for the Assembly. I have written to Mr. Tonseth about the possibility of the Church sharing with us in the transportation cost of your family and make allowance for a longer period of time here. We have asked him to consult with the officers of the Church about this and I shall confer with them at the time of Presbytery. On the basis of the Conditions of Service in Alaska, which you have received, following a five year period of service it would be the Board's plan for you to have a four months furlough taking for granted, of course, that you were going to return. We shall be glad to have further conference with your officers

looking forward to that possibility for you. It would be easier perhaps for us to approach your men about it than for you to have to do it.

Alaska Presbytery is meeting on April 11th at Hydaburg. I shall spend some time in that area prior to the meeting of Presbytery and will then go to Fairbanks for your meeting. Following your meeting, I want to visit all of our stations along the Arctic Coast. This will cause me to miss the annual meeting of the Board here but it is important that I have a contact with our work among the Eskimos.

Inasmuch as so many of our people and our Church programs are involved with the army, I have requested Chaplain Appelgate at Anchorage to see if he could do something for me in the way of transportation. Dr. Pugh has promised me a letter from the Protestant Commission on Chaplains which ought to be helpful. I feel also we would not be bold in asking Brigadier General Gaffney for transportation to some of the points on the Arctic Coast if the army is flying in that direction at the time of my trip. It has been in the back of my mind also to ask that you should accompany me with the army on this trip to the Arctic Coast. General Gaffney has recognized your service to the men and I would have no hesitation in asking him for this transportation. However, if you are coming out to the Assembly you may not feel that you can take the time after Presbytery to make this trip. A word from you on this would be helpful. Should I contact General Gaffney direct? Can you make some approach there or what should we do? An early reply on this will be greatly appreciated.

We are enclosing the Preliminary Information Form again in the hope of receiving all this information from you as well as others. We hope to have a complete file of essential information for all of our workers in Alaska.

Last week I had a luncheon meeting with Dr. Bader of the Federal Council and Dr. Dawber of the Home Missions Council in regard to a visit of E. Stanley Jones to Alaska during September. Dr. Jones is available during that month and would have four meetings of a week's duration. I suggested Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau, and Ketchikan as the four places, and that Dr. Bader should write to you asking you to take up this matter with the rest of the ministers in Fairbanks for the visit there. He in turn has asked me to meet with the Committees in each place during my trip to Alaska.

I am tampering with the mailing list of Monday Morning for Yukon Presbytery. We have asked the office in Philadelphia to put our Yukon

Presbytery workers on an airmail list so that the pamphlet will get to you in much better time than by regular mail. Our office will have to pay for this postage but we feel that it is worth it to have the information in Monday Morning in your hands soon after it appears. There is some hope that we may accomplish this. Also, we have been trying to get the San Francisco Central Distributing Department to give us better service for special day materials. We hope that something can be worked out which will give Alaska better service in these matters. We ought to discuss this more in the meeting of Presbytery.

Speaking of Presbytery reminds me that I am having mimeographed an outline of an ideal parish which has been drawn up by Dr. Richardson of McCormick Seminary and bringing it along with whatever materials I can gather so that in Presbytery we can consider a well-rounded parish program. Is this valuable enough to give some time in Presbytery for it?

In connection with the statement of relations between the Board and the local church we have forwarded an Application for Aid to the aided churches. This is a regular procedure in all of our aided fields in the States and does put a greater responsibility upon local churches for the support of their own work. We want to develop this local responsibility as far as possible and should proceed with this in all of our Alaska aided churches. Privately, I do not hope to get a full response on this the first year but for a greaterstability in our work I hope we will get a full program within a short period of time.

I am looking forward to another fine visit with you and the other men at Presbytery.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

Enc. Application Form

First Presbyterian Church

SEP 4 1945

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"--Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

August 29, 1945

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Rather expected to hear from you by now but perhaps you were not in the office when my letter arrived. I would appreciate being kept posted on whatever arrangements you may make with Miss Bechtel because I have an idea that is the only way I will know.

I was in Juneau for three days a week ago as a delegate to a Rotary Assembly with all expenses paid. Flew down and back. Spent considerable time with Willis Booth and had dinner with the Proutys. The Princeton-Hall is a very trim looking ship now with all its new paint and extra accessories. The Church can be proud of her.

The biggest problem I ran across in Southeastern was the need of some kind of a training school or Seminary to take care of Natives who do not have the qualifications to go through the schools outside. Not only would such a school be a boon for the Indians but it would be an opportunity for present and future Eskimo lay workers. It seems that some outfit has set up such a Seminary in Juneau. It also appears that the boys who have been through Sheldon Jackson would not be in favor of returning to SJS for graduate work. With three Presbyterian Ministers located in Juneau, it seems to me that some kind of a plan could be worked out. Ofcourse, Rev. Prouty is away much of the time but it seems that a system could be worked out when he would be on hand at certain times. Walter would be ideal for such training and Booth could make his contribution too. Well, that is just an idea.

Miss Whitmore spent a few days with us on two occassions this summer. The last time she was here, she had an opportunity to attend our Eskimo Church Service. She was very favorably impressed and made the comment that we really have two churches here. Our Eskimo service attendance has been from 40 to 45 each Sunday with a little over half adults. The children leave the main service after the opening worship and have a Sunday School session.

So far we have not done a great deal for the Eskimoes. But we plan to have an all-Eskimo social every two or three months with the first one coming up in September. If I can find a clear night during the week I plan to have a mid-week service for them. I believe they need more opportunity for personal witnessing such as is possible in a prayer meeting.

To date, nine Eskimos have become members of our church. Only one was received by letter from Barrow. Some of the others had been members at Barrow or Wainwright many years ago but had had no church connection in the intervening years. I have also baptized nine of their children.

Considering all these facts, I believe Miss Whitmore's comment is correct - we really have two churches here. And it seems to me we should begin to think now about a time when they will have their own church building and their own minister. By the way, we have the only all-Eskimo services in town now. The Nazarene Church suspended theirs because of lack of attendance.

I believe you are aware of the fact that the Bishop Rowe memorial will be here in Fairbanks. It will consist of Episcopal Bishop's headquarters, a small chapel, a dormitory for visiting missionaries and - a BOARDING SCHOOL FOR NATIVES. That's the dope the local clergyman has given to me. Plans are also being made now to build a new Episcopal church.

A Baptist Church is also being constructed here now and I understand they are planning to have an ORPHANAGE in connection with it.

Ofcourse, there is nothing we can do about either one of these projects and it would take us ten years to make up our minds to a similar project. As a matter of fact I tried to talk Dr. Keeler into buying a farm one mile out of town for just such a project but he said it was impossible. Our greatest opportunity now lies in the establishment of an Eskimo Church with their own minister.

Also, constantly growing is the little community at the College. Many new homes have been and are being build out there in the last year. We should have a mission there similar to Faith Chapel in Anchorage. If we do not - be sure someone else will. Fact is, we have a double responsibility out there considering the students.

What are the prospects for Barrow? If you do not get anyone this winter and think it worthwhile, I shall be glad to go up therefor a month during the winter.

Trust this has not wearied you.

Sincerely,

Harry

N. Harry Champlin

RETAIL ESTABLISHED 1900 WHOLESALE

A. POLET

NOME DEPARTMENT STORE

GROCERIES. MEAT, TOBACCO, DRY GOODS
CLOTHING, HARDWARE, PAINTS, FOOTWEAR
ESKIMO ARTCRAFTS AND FUR CLOTHING

NOME, ALASKA

September 27, 1945

Rev. N. Harry Champlin
First Presbyterian Church
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Rev. Champlin:

I got home safely and since arriving, I have taken the Church matter up with the result that I have sent a telegram to both Dr. C. W. Lokey, 150 Fifth Avenue, New York, and Rev. Thos. Alfred Tripp, 287 Fourth Avenue, New York, copy of which is enclosed. Should you already have sent your recommendation to your head office, probably they will get together in New York soon. I have received no reply as yet.

Also, have taken up the matter of the shipments to Savoonga and Gambell. I find that even though I had talked to Mr. Foster in Juneau, the Captain of the North Star, in answer to my wire to him while he was up at Kotzebue, he replies as follows:

> "HAVE NO ORDERS AS YET TO GO TO ST. LAWRENCE ISLAND IF NO INDIAN SERVICE BUSINESS THERE WILL NOT BE GOING STOP".

I advise that you take up with Donald Foster in Juneau and urge that the North Star does take the orders for merchandise that we have here for Gambell and Savoonga, as well as orders that we have for Natives on the Island.

Upon investigation, I find that there are no houses on the Base of the type that Mr. Bingle showed me, but your representative could find something that would do, as I have seen that the Catholic Church is moving in Nome a building in three sections for their work.

Yours very truly,
A. POLET

By_____

AP:mwm

P.S. North star here & am informed that they are proceeding to Nunivak Island to pick up Walton then back to Nome to load for ref points to Bethel. If you wish to send a letter making this request it will not hurt if you send a letter making this request

COPY OF NIGHT MESSAGE

Also copied to
Dr. Adam Alfred Taylor

Nome, Alaska
September 27, 1945

Dr. C. W. Lokey
150 Fifth Ave.
New York City

LAST BOAT LEAVING SEATTLE WITHIN ONE WEEK NO ADVICE RECEIVED SAVING OUR PULPIT FILLED SITUATION URGENT STOP FROM CONVERSATION WITH CHAMPLIN AND SINGLE PRESBYTE[illegible] AT FAIRBANKS EXPRESS WILLINGNESS JOIN OUR FEDERATION SUGGEST[illegible] THIRD CO[illegible]RSE WITH PLAN ADDING ONE MAN FOR RECREATION AND RELIGIOUS TEACHING ON TAKING OVER CONGREGATIONAL PROPERTY AND WORK WITH METHODIST ON PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS PLEASE GIVE THIS IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

ANTONIO POLET
CHAIRMAN EXECUTIVE BOARD

OCT 4 1945

10/5/45 cc-Dr Jackman

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"--Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

October 1, 1945

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10, New York

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Mr. Antonio Polet had a conference with Bert and myself in reference to the work at Nome. It seems that they are without a minister in the Federated Church and unless one is forthcoming pretty soon it will be impossible to get personal belingings to Nome....before next summer.

Mr. Polet is Chairman of the Executive Board of the Church. The setup, as you may already know, is a joint affair with the Congregational and Methodist Churches. Each is supposed to supply a minister for a three year term alternately. But it usually takes a year to get a man; so, one year in three the church is vacant.

It seems that the Methodist Church never did own any of the property and when $150.00 is paid to the Congregational Church, the property will be locally owned.

The local church raises $4000.00 a year toward expenses with the sponsoring church contributing $900.00 during the period when they ~~are~~ supply the minister.

There is a furnished manse which has recently been completely renovated. Stoves burn oil at 10¢ a gallon.

Mr. Polet is impressed by the work of our church, and feels that it would be good business for us to have someone in Nome to look after our interests on the Island and at Wales. I agree with him. So he suggests we join the federation with the Congregational Church and the Methodist Church or take the place of either one if that one cared to drop out of the picture.

In the event that the other two churches continue to care for the ministry he would suggest that our church provide a full time social worker. Or the minister and the social worker to be supplied by the three churches each to have a three year term. Mr. Polet feels the need of an additional worker in Nome because of moral conditions of the town between natives and whites.

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER
"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET
"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

We would suggest that your office get in touch with the offices of the Methodist Church and Congregational Church and see what can be done. . . to keep a minister on the job in Nome without the yearly vacancies between pastorates and also to look into the possibility of having a second person in Nome as a social and recreation worker.

Am enclosing Mr. Polet's correspondence on the matter.

Mr. Polet was also trying to get the North Star to sail to St. Lawrence Island before going out to the chain but did not succeed. I am writing to Donald Foster in Juneau to urge him to have the ship take Nome supplies to the Island. If it doesn't - Miss Green will be short of fuel.

Bert & I were also wondering if there was not an Army building in Nome which could be purchased reasonably and sent to Savoonga for a church building. We suggested a lock-stave hut, but evidently none are available in Nome. It is too late to do anything about it until next summer and by then you will, perhaps, be in Nome and can pick out a building that could be used for such a purpose.

All goes well here. Expect snow tonight. Thermometer read ten above this morning. Have been doing a little bird hunting with fair success. Going to hunt ptarmigan in the morning.

Had our first Eskimo pot-luck dinner and prayer meeting. Forty in attendance - it was a good start. This Wednesday will have prayer meeting without the dinner. Walton Ahmagoak to be leader. He is the son of Roy and used to make trips to Demarcation with Fred. Sixty-two Eskimoes in Church Sunday Afternoon. Three more to join the church Sunday.

Expect Becky will be leaving right on the 15th. Suggest you do not get too responsible a position for her. You will be getting a rebound if you do - no fooling.

Sincerely,

Harry

N. Harry Champlin

nhc
encls

sent the address
arrived with 10/19/45
at Hour Letter

October 8, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. N. Harry Champlin
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

My dear Mr. Champlin:

Thank you for your letter of October first. We have made copies of it and of the enclosures and forwarded them on to Dr. Jackman who is away on a field trip. He expects to return to the office after the middle of the month.

Sincerely yours,

Frieda Koerner, Secretary to
J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

FK

OCT 15 1945

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

October 9, 1945

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Bert corralled the Cook Inlet boys, got them all stirred up about Percy and Wales, and the result was a long distance call from Anchorage this morning with Armstrong saying "Hello" and Alfsen doing the talking.

They want to find out if Percy is going to Wales within the next two weeks and if food and fuel is there for the winter. If Percy does not intend returning to Wales pronto, they want to investigate the possibility of sending some fellow who is an independent working down around Copper Center.

It is bad for morale up here to have someone like Percy muff the ball continuously. As I suggested in my last letter, either he should get in the saddle or go paddle his own canoe.

Shall we investigate the above mentioned independent with a view to sending him to Wales if Percy does not respond?

Also, do you know anything about the fuel & food situation in Wales? Is the stuff there for the winter in case someone else takes over? And who is taking care of it to keep it from freezing if it is there?

Sincerely,

N. Harry Champlin

P. S. Thought you should have enclosed copy of letter to M. Matthews.

none.
Savoonga.
Wales.
Barrow.
$100. advance.
Becky. 9 future

OCT 15 1945

October 9, 1945

Mr. R. T. Matthews
Department of the Interior
Surplus Properties Division
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Mr. Matthews:

On St. Lawrence Island we have a full time Missionary and his wife stationed at Gambell and a full time missionary stationed at Savoonga. There is a church building at Gambell but none at Savoonga. Services are held in whatever building is available and usually under adverse conditions as far as heat in the winter-times is concerned.

Our particular church is the only one carrying on mission work at Savoonga and should have constructed a church building long since. Until such time as we can construct such a permanent building we would like to procure a building similar to a lock-stave hut of some 100' - 125' in length.

Nome is the most practical shipping point to Savoonga, so it would probably be easier to transport a building from the Nome vicinity. However, arrangements could probably be made to transport a building from any place along the coast.

We hereby make application for such a building from your department in case such a building does exist and is declared surplus. Any consideration in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

N. Harry Champlin, Chm.
National Missions Committee

nhc

P.S. If such a building is available, understand we can probably get it without cost.

1924 C.

October 16, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. M. Harry Champlin
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Harry:

I have been away from the office too much this Fall to catch up on all of the things about which we should give you a report.

Thanks for your letters of information and your suggestions of a forward movement in Yukon Presbytery. They are all helpful and we need to get together on these developments.

In regard to Nome, we have discussed a little bit here the possibility of some relationship with the other denominations there. From the present outlook it would seem that we should have a spirit of cooperation in our missionary personnel rather than attempt any definite entry into the federated arrangments with the Congregationalists and Methodists. We are working on this, however, with progress. Mr. Polet is being accused of wanting us to come in because he feels our entry would bring him business for our Arctic Coast mission stations. I would not verify this accusation but, of course, it would be valuable to him. Aside from all this he has been very friendly and extremely cooperative. We appreciate his help.

We have discovered that the University of Alaska in their excavations near Savoonga left a sizeable building behind them. We have been trying to get Dr. Bunnell to say that they have no further claim on it. We understand from them that all of their property was abandoned to the Eskimos in exchange for some ivory to add to their museum. He has referred us to Mr. Albert Kulowiji, Manager of the Reindeer Commercial Company, Savoonga, Alaska. Mr. Kulowiji turns out to be, according to our records, an Elder in our Church. We are writing to Alice Green to follow this up. Miss Green and Mr. Parker report there is nearly enough lumber in this building to build our Church. We would have to add roof materials and insulation and equipment. Our hope is that this may be cleared this winter with a further listing of the materials necessary to build our Church on the site which has already been designated for us by the Office of Indian Affairs in Juneau. If we can get all this arranged, we would then ship the materials necessary to complete the building on the summer boat. Miss Green has agreed to go over to Gambell and hold the fort there while The Parker's move over to Savoonga and Mr. Parker will take charge of the building of the Church. He is good with tools and has a pretty good set of his own. We hope this will definitely materialize during the coming summer.

If it develops that this building about which you wrote to Mr. Matthews is available it might be well for us to get it too. The Gambell Church needs some repairs and Savoonga will probably need more lumber than is in the building there. It would probably cost us the labor of dismantling the building and its transportation from Nome. Let us know what develops.

You will be glad to know that Percy and his family are at Wales. Acting on Bert's idea of family interference, I wrote a letter to Esther appealing to her to join her husband in his ministry. We do not know if this had any affect but the family is now on the field. This relieves us considerably because we had been concerned about our work and about Percy.

We have another nibble for a couple for Barrow. We are following it up as rapidly as possible and hope that something may come of it. The minister is working in Kansas and he and his wife have been doing some work among the Kickapoo Indians. They are interested in this type of ministry. He inquired about full time work among the Indians in the States, while she feels they must go to Barrow. We are awaiting developments.

Thanks for your observation about Becky. Our arrangements with her were that we would pay her return transportation and have no further commitment to her. She had agreed to this. We appreciate the warning and we shall follow it.

As soon as we get our dockets filed, we shall forward you a check for $100. as an advance on Committee expenses for Yukon Presbytery.

Give me your estimate upon the future need of having a woman on your Staff and the basis on which she should be there. Is Ladd Field going to continue indefinitely and can we ask Camp and Church for a part of the support? What is the industry situation in Fairbanks which might justify War Time Service for some support for another couple of years? My judgement is that you need a girl and we would try to do better about a choice in the future. A frank statement from you on this would be helpful.

Kindest personal regards to you and Betty!

Cordially yours,

JEJ:FK

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

First Presbyterian Church

OCT 29 1945

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, MINISTER

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

October 23, 1945

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Jackman:

In regard to the Nome situation, the latest angle was the particular concern of Mr. Polet because the pulpit was vacant with no prospect of a minister this winter. It seems that there is a vacancy for many months after every change of pastorates. Two years ago, it had been vacant for a year and Bert Bingle seemed to think at that time that we had a moral responsibility to do something about it. I agreed with him. When established churches do not assume their responsibilities, the field becomes ripe for the cults. They have capitalized in Nome. No doubt the gentleman in Nome would not be beyond looking out for a little extra business.

Speaking of Nome, the Army will be curtailing operations there in the next few months and in a reasonable period of time there ought to be surplus material available at low price, besides buildings. Do any of our stations need medical supplies or dishes or power plants or any other thing of that nature? We should put in a bid for them now. Or perhaps the power plants now in use are worn out and could be replaced or another plant of same kind could be used for parts. Request could be made through Ray Mathews here in Fairbanks. There are quite a few half-track snow jeeps in this area and undoubtedly in Nome too. Why not get one for each Station. They have replaceable wheels and skiis on front. It would be a good machine in Barrow as it could be used the year around. Fred could not drive his in the summer. There is a little trailer that goes with them....just right for hauling wood or ice. The official designation is Half-track M-7 with M-19 Trailer.

Just talked to Dr. Bunnell at the University on the phone about that building in or near Savoonga. Over a year ago Clarence A. Pungowiyi wrote to me to see if I could get Dr. Bunnell to seal him the lumber. It seems that Dr. Bunnell turned the property over to the Reindeer Commercial Company in exchange for some ivory carvings for the University Museum and now lays no claim to it. Tools etc. went with the property. Dr. Bunnell just said that any arrangement you made with The Reindeer Company was all right with him but he hoped there would be no trouble over it.

Glad that Percy and family have returned to Wales and trust that Barrow will soon be filled though I am sure Roy is doing a very good job there.

Some professional promoter of doubtful character has come into town and talked a dozen and a half of our Barrow Eskimoes into going outside to put on a series of shows with Eskimo dances and what not. The dances are really quite pagan but are called ceremonial and religious. The troupe is to be called "This Is Alaska". If the project goes through it will be a sad commentary on our mission work for the past 60 years in Barrow. None of the Eskimoes have been outside and, ofcourse, promises of seeing all of the United States and coming back with several thousands of dollars apiece looks pretty big to them. The promoter is taking a lien on them up to three years. It will ruin the Eskimoes but I don't know quite how to stop it. The contract is misleading, and actually guarantees nothing, according to a lawyer, but it is hard to tell them that. Roy's son Walton Ahmaogak and his wife are among the group. They haven't left yet but expect to any day now. If I stick my neck out too far I'll probably have them down on me for spoiling it. Maybe something will happen before they get very far along the way. Present plans are to tour the U. S. and play all the big cities. This week they brought down the Eskimo from Barrow who discovered the Post-Rogers plane wreck and ran to Barrow with the information. He is to be an added attraction.

Bert Bingle just came back from the Cook Inlet country. It seems the boys all got together down there and decided to build an entirely new camp on the site of the King's Lake Conference grounds. They had an architect draw up some plans and the lay-out looks very nice. The main building is to be 175' by 32' and will house a combination chapel and auditorium at one end, a kitchen and dining room at the other end separated by a large lobby with fireplace. Bunkhouses will be about 16'x26', the whole camp to be big enough to take care of 200 campers. I am requested to ask the Board through you for funds to pay for the combination chapel and auditorium or, to erect a chapel as an individual unit. Total project expense is estimated now at $15,000.00. Mr. Rasmussen of Skagway has already given $1000.00 to the project. They want to get under way and set up the camp for occupancy next summer. The total cost is for more-or-less donated labor. A contract job would estimate at $30,000.00.

As to the future need of a woman on the local staff. A person who would be qualified to hold down a similar job in a big church outside would be a wonderful asset. Anyone else is wasting their time and ours. A person in a small place like this is expected to do so many different things that exceptional personality and ability is a prerequisite. It is such a pleasure to have so congenial atmosphere around here that no one is complaining about the extra work. Betty, of course, is taking the beating. Yesterday she spent the morning cooking, for the rest of the day. From 2:30 to 4:30 she handled, alone, the Primary Week-Day School. Two other helpers could not make it. At 4:30 she went downtown with one of the young people to pick out a going-away present for another Girl. At 6:30 Mariner's Club had a pot-luck dinner in the Church. Betty

was chief server. I set the tables myself, put the water on for coffee etc. Betty also planned the entertainment which followed the meal. In between times she dashed over to the house to see that the Young People were getting off to a good start on their going-away party for the above mentioned girl. She gave them 45 pennies and gave them an hour to go out and see who or what group with 15 cents could bring back the most stuff. By that time Mariner's was well in hand and I carried on. There were 21 Mariners and about 17 Young People involved. At the same time the Boys Scouts were having a meeting in the basement. The last soldier left at midnight. On top of it all two of our boys have the chicken pox - the other just finished having them.

My personal estimate (from conversations ofcourse) is that there will be around 2500 men stationed at Ladd Field during the next two years. Many are leaving but replacements are coming in, which is a pretty good indication of permanency. There are several hundred construction and maintenance workers (civilians) who live, for the most part, in Fairbanks but work on the Post. Their work will also continue as long as the Post exists. The backbone industry in Fairbanks is, ofcourse, gold mining which will be in full swing by next summer.

We have a difficult time making it financially too. Personally, I am $230.00 in the hole so far this year. We served 71 meals last month to soldiers by actual count. Ofcourse, I take as much as I can from the $50.00 War-Time Service check but the fellowship hour lunches after church every Sunday night comes from it too as well as odds and ends including gas for my car when the boys take it on hunting expeditions. Used to be able to help the Young People out in their entertainments and parties but can't do it any more. As a result they are usually pretty cramped.

We might hire Betty for half what Becky was paid and we would get twice as much accomplished to boot. If she isn't hired and there is no assistance, she will be doing the work anyway. I don't know how long she can last, but do not see any signs of weakness to date.

With Ladd Field on a peace time schedule the boys get Saturday and Sundays off. On Rriday and Saturday nights from 3 to five boys spend the night in the church. Then we have them around all day Saturday and Sunday. Last Sunday dinner we had seven G.I.s and a Major for company. By the way, does it affect the insurance on the church to have anyone sleeping in it?

Sunday School attendance last Sunday was 118. Eleven soldiers met in the kitchen around the table - drank coffee and munched rolls while the USO director taught them the Sunday School lesson. The USO also pays for the rolls. Five of the boys had spent the night in the church and that was their breakfast. It is called a Java Club. At the same time 16 girls, half of them college girls, met in the Manse for their Java Club. Tried to get this group started in Becky's house a year ago but after a couple of weeks it quit. This one increases every week. A young school teacher is in charge. Have several of the college girls singing in the choir now too.

Maybe I'd better save the rest for the next time or can you stand some more?

I have done quite a few things during the writing of this article.....its a bit too long to call a mere letter. Bert interrupted me this afternoon and when he left I had to hustle over to the school to chairman a "Teen Town" advisory meeting. There I read a leter I had prepared to send to all the organizations in town in order to raise $4000.00 for "Teen Town" for the next twelve months. No one wanted to alter the letter - hope it brings in the necessary funds.

After returning from school, had only a few minutes before supper. After supper was the Eskimo prayer meeting at 7. It lasted until 8. At 8:30 had a wedding. Now it is nearly 9:30. So far, have turned down three weddings because they did not come within the law of the Church.

The last paragraph of your July NEWS LETTER bothers me. It says: "It is reported that several are reading their sermons in the pulpit. Please stop. " Well, I don't exactly read my sermons but I come pretty close to it. My notes are very copious. On the mission field, when I preached the same sermon a half dozen times I could preach without notes after the first time. And even the first time for a new sermon, had only a small slip of paper with a few notes on it. But now, I follow my outline quite closely. That is, for the morning and evening services. I do not use any notes for the Eskimo service in the afternoon. I pick out a good passage of Scripture, read it, have it interpreted, and then apply it. It is very easy to say "Know Christ yourself and tell your people about His love for them". But do this three times on Sunday, every Sunday, without pretty full notes and I believe there will be a great deal of repetition and a falling off of attendance. I also have a Junior Sermon every Sunday which I give from memory. Ofcourse, I am really trying to justify my actions here, but I doubt if I can ever change my ways in this particular parish. I never even start writing a sermon until Thursday. Maybe I could have written one in the time it took to write this.

In addition to my weekly broadcasts (the last one was number 139) I also put out a weekly mimeograph sheet for the Rotary Club of which I am secretary. Outside of the above items and a few hundred other things I find life pretty dull in these parts!

Sincerely,

Harry

nhc N. Harry Champlin.

NOV 20 1945

"THIS IS ALASKA"

"This Is Alaska" is the title of a so-called "All-Alaska Show" which is currently starting out from Seattle for a proposed three-year tour of the United States. The troupe, besides the promoters, is made up of twenty-five Eskimos including their children, all of whom are from Barrow or from Wainwright which is 80 miles to the west of Barrow on the Arctic Coast. All but two have been living in Fairbanks for the past several months or, in the case of a few, for the past two years.

When we came to Fairbanks in 1942 we lived here six months before we ever saw an Eskimo - so seldom did they leave their Arctic villages. But the shortage of manpower during the war caused contractors and the Alaska Railroad to visit the villages and hire the Eskimos. Gradually a little Eskimo village took shape on the outskirts of Fairbanks until now, there are probably at least a hundred Eskimos living in the village or in Fairbanks proper.

Being thrown up against the white man's civilization, if it can be called such; of taverns, bars, saloons, movies and all the other things that go with a frontier city in boom time; being thrust up against all these things in such a big dose, all at once, could easily have caused these Eskimos to become one with the erring white man. Indeed, the Indians from the Interior very largely did. But without exception, the Eskimos have remained the fine, upright persons they grew up to be under the influence of the missionaries in the Arctic Villages.

They began to come to our morning and evening church services, always sitting in the last rows and usually grouped in the corners. After a while, we thought that in addition to coming to our regular services, we should have a special service just for them. So, meeting on Sunday afternoons at 3 o'clock, we started the first service with six present. Week after week a few more would come until we reached forty. First there was singing in English and then they sang in Eskimo. All seem to have a natural gift for singing. We managed to learn the chorus "Into My Heart" in Eskimo and never fail to please them when we sing it with them. After the song service, an Eskimo leads in prayer in his own tongue, all joining in the Lord's Prayer in Eskimo. An offering is received and an expository sermon is preached with one of the Eskimos interpreting. The majority do not need an interpreter, but, bor the benefit of the unschooled, elderly attendants we have an interpreter. In due time we thought we should do more for the children, so now, after the opening song service we dismiss the children to the Sunday School room where they are taught a Bible lesson, childrens' songs - finishing off with handwork until the other service is over.

Undoubtedly, we made many mistakes as we branched out into an entirely new field, an all Eskimo service. One mistake we made, we shall never forget. After pronouncing the Benediction at the close of the service it is our custom to step down from the pulpit and go to the door to greet all who have attended. So, naturally we did the same thing in this service. But the Eskimos sat down after the benediction, and gave no sign of leaving. We were quite puzzled and asked if there was something else they wished to do. They made no reply but slowly rose to their feet and ambled out. This went on for several weeks before they began leaving immediately after the benediction. When, Rev. Fred Klerekoper came down from Barrow several months later we told him of the incident. Fred informed

us that he judged the value of his sermons by the length of time the adults sat in the seats after the benediction. It seems that when they are impressed, they like to sit and meditate upon it. Well, by the time we knew this it was too late. Through ignorance we broke a wonderful habit.

A few weeks ago we started a Wednesday night prayer meeting. The initial meeting started by singing "What a Friend we have in Jesus" - followed by other hymns and accompanied at the piano by Rex Ahvakana. Prayers were offered by Alfred Hobson and Wilbur Itchoak. Walton Ahmaogak - son of our layworker Roy Ahmaogak, interim pastor at Barrow - read and commented in Eskimo for fifteen minutes on Galatians 6:1-10: "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fualt . . . Be not deceived; God is not mocked . . As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men." Alfred Hobson read and commented in Eskimo for ten minutes on II Timothy 2:15 and II Timothy 3:16. Wilbur Itchoak gave a testimony and Cynthia Ahmaogak led in prayer followed by others. We took our cue from Walton, the first speaker, and spoke a few minutes on Galatians 5:19-23, closing with a prayer. The service ended with the singing of "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Two weeks ago we thought it would be a good idea to have a pot luck supper before the prayer meeting. So we talked it over the week before and all agreed. We set the tables, made plenty of coffee and waited with a bit of anxiety to see what they would bring for supper. When thirty were seated at the tables, the total amount of food on the tables which they had brought consisted of a large bowl of salad, a loaf of bread and two small packages of cookies. We mentioned rather shyly to one of the mothers: "There's not very much food". In reply, she shlowly looked the tables over and said, "Oh, I think there's plenty." The first man to get hold of the salad put a large helping on his plate and we could see that at that rate it would not serve more than six, so we quickly took the dish from him before he could pass it and proceeded to give each one a spoon full. We found a box of rolls left over from the young peoples' hallowe'en party the night before and passed them around. Next, we found the remains of a box of apples left over from the Primary Weekday School hallowe'en party, and passed those around. By keeping the coffee cups full until everyone was satisfied, we figured that the meal was not too much of a failure after all. Next time we will do better.

Our Sunday afternoon attendance increased until it reached sixty-two, but now it has dropped back to forty. The others are part of the troupe "This is Alaska". Among them are Rex Ahvakana and Walton and Cynthia Ahmaogak. Several months ago the Eskimos decided to hire a hall and put on an entertainment of oldtime tribal and folk dances - mostly for fun - but they managed to take in several hundreds of dollars at the same time. A promoter from the States happened to see the entertainment and the show "This Is Alaska" is the result. In addition to "seeing the world" for the first time, the Eskimos in the troupe have been led to believe that they will receive a gread deal of money from their United States tour. When they were first rehearsing for the tour, they were asked to sing and all they could sing were hymns and gospel songs. Ofcourse, that is all they learned in their mission villages. . . and our prayer is that they may return from this tour as good as when they left Alaska.

nhc

First Presbyterian Church

N. HARRY CHAMPLIN, Minister

"I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH"—Mt. 16:18

MANSE: 703 CUSHMAN STREET

"HE IS BUILDING OUR CHURCH"

Seventh and Cushman Streets, Fairbanks, Alaska

DEC 26 1945

Dec. 20, 1945

Dear Dr Jackman, —

Received your last two letters — things are looking expand up.

Army snow Jeeps are excess but not surplus. In other words, other govt agencies can purchase them now but not the general public according to local head — cost about one thousand — may get good one may not — probably Ord has best idea in purchase of snow mobile. Will be looking for Leeo —

Sincerely

J Harry C

ing and polishing, it will be moved...
Observatorio Astrofisico Nacl

61945

Eskimo Troupe Is Stranded, Tour Canceled

JUNEAU—Don C. Foster, Alaska Native Service superintendent, has reported the dancing troupe of 25 Point Barrow Eskimos who recently sailed for the States under five-year contract to perform native dances has been stranded in Seattle. Foster, who has recently returned from Seattle where he personally endeavored to locate the original promoter, Art Monette, declared the dancing tour was cancelled without ever giving a performance.

Inquiry is being made by the ANS which, the agency says, may lead to prosecution of Monette for alleged embezzlement. The former construction worker's nine partners, each of whom was to put up $1,500 to back the dancing tour, will also be liable for prosecution, the native service investigators declared. The $15,000 supposedly pooled to back the venture is also missing.

The stranded Eskimos, including many older natives and families with small children, are residing in a Seattle tourist camp at the expense of federal relief. They will be returned to their original homes at Barrow as soon as possible at the expense of the ANS, Foster reports.

Stressing the bureau's disfavor of the project from the start, Foster said every possible legal means had been tried to discourage or completely block the natives' departure at the start.

It is the policy of the ANS to permit the natives freedom of movement, Foster said, but to investigate the reliability of persons promoting such ventures. In this stance a bond was frequently promised but never forthcoming, he added.

DEC 26 1945

ESKIMO TROUPE RETURNING HOME FINANCIALLY BROKE

The Eskimo show, "This Is Alaska," that left Fairbanks a few weeks ago in high hopes for the States under the direction of Art Monette, with the intention of spending two years touring the States in a trailer, crashed on financial rocks before even getting a start from Seattle. They left on their return trip to Alaska on the S. S. Denali on December 5.

Martin Tye, formerly of Fairbanks, and now president of the Embalmer's Research Co. in Seattle, sends the following account of their experience Outside:

"We first heard of them through a Jessen's Weekly editorial. Inquiring of Charlie Settlemier we found them at the Seattle Motor Court about 15 miles south of Seattle. The day we found them, about a week ago, the leader, Monette announced that the show was broke. Monette left in the night.

"Louis Johnston, the Brown boys and other persons connected with the show have been doing their best for the troupe since Monette left. They are disheartened at the failure but much relieved that the Eskimos have been provided for.

"They showed once in Puyallup to a small but enthusiastic audience; but were so stunned and demoralized at the financial failure of the promoter that further engagements were not booked.

"We got busy and arranged for some shows at the luncheon clubs etc., and gave them a picnic at Saltwater State Park.. The owners of the Motor Court took the Eskimo children to see a department store Santa Claus and went up to pier 50 to see them all off

on the Denali. They remarked that the Eskimos were the finest and best-behaved group they had ever had as guests.

"They were booked to show at the Consolidated Angle Lake school; but meanwhile the show men had wired the Bureau of Indian Affairs at Juneau, advising them of the situation.

"Last night they were advised by the Juneau office to board the Denali this morning. Joe Crosson offered to help us get them to the ship; but meanwhile the local Bureau of Indian Affairs sent trucks to the Motor Court.

"So they are off to Alaska without having had a chance to prove the merit of the show. They are a fine group of people, those Barrow Eskimos. We have done what little we could here and we earnestly hope that the Fairbanks folks will encourage them to reestablish themselves in the north when they arrive back home."

ON TRIP OUTSIDE

Paul Packard left Fairbanks

December 29, 1945

VIA AIRMAIL

The Rev. N. Harry Champlin
Box 2157
Fairbanks, Alaska

Dear Harry:

Thank you for the clippings about the break up of the Eskimo tour in the States. It seems ashame for them to be let down by these promoters but in the end I think it is Providential that the Eskimos get back home without any permanent damage to their moral and spiritual life.

I have talked to Fred about the snowmobile for Barrow and he advises us to try to get one down here if it is possible. After the first of the year we shall write to the Arps Company in Wisconsin and see what the possibility is. Manufacturing products are pretty tight just now because people are waiting for the end of the year to go by and a new reduction of taxes at the beginning of the new year will give them new hope. We shall follow it up.

If this reaches you before you get to Presbytery meeting have a talk with Ray Notring. Things are not going so well for him in Cordova. He is standing firm to his convictions and is remaining true to the principles of our Church but I'm afraid he is showing a little bit of hardness in his attitude. His reports indicate that he is not making enough calls but he is very busy with other things. My feeling is he is doing a good job but he needs a little more winsomeness in his approach to people. When I say that I am still ready to express my confidence in him.

Have had two or three long letters from Bert. We hope to be able to do something toward a 16mm sound projector for him after the first of the year. Nothing is available now but we hope things will be released then.

In Bert's letter he talks about coming out to the States to go to school under his furlough provision after the first of the year. Then, he would return to Alaska for Easter services and come out again to General Assembly. We need his services on the field over Easter but

I wonder if they are worth a round trip between Alaska and the States. My feeling is he ought to come out at the beginning of a four months furlough period, spend some time in study, attend the General Assembly, and then go immediately back to his field so he can pick up his work for the summer. We are counting upon his expenses to and from General Assembly to take care of his travel along with our obligation for the travel for the family. We just haven't enough cash this year in sending The Lee's to Barrow to provide for transportation for all of the family with their furlough. The Board's rule calls for transportation of the husband and wife and dependent children. I presume this would include James but how about Vella who is working. My dispostion would be a little more generous than the rule of the Board but we are limited in the amount of money which is available for travel. I shall write to Bert about this but felt that you ought to be consulted too.

We are having a commissioning service for The Lee's here at the Executive Committee Meeting of the Board on the 17th of January. Following that they will have a farewell service with their home Church in Horton, Kansas with Synod and Synodical participating and then proceed to Seattle as soon as transportation can be arranged by Howell. They may not arrive in Fairbanks until near the middle of February but we shall ask them to wire you ahead telling you approximately the time of their arrival, if and when the train runs.

Had lunch the other day with Dr. Theodore Cuyler Speers. He brought the Christmas message at our noon-day service in the Board rooms and we visited together about your work and Alaska after the meeting was over. He sends his greetings to you and Betty. He is a loyal friend of The Champlin's.

We are thinking of you and praying God's richest blessings on both of you and your children in your ministry.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

JAN 21 1946

Presbytery of Yukon
IN ALASKA

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

January 15, 1946

VIA AIRMAIL

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, 10, New York

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Presbytery convened two days later than scheduled because of transportation, but we all made the round-trip in good order arriving home without delay. Armstrong and Alfsen left Anchorage for Cordova on Friday morning the 4th. The same plane then flew to Faribanks and returned with Bingle and myself, arriving in Cordova in time for supper Friday night. We all had a fine time together and it made a nice break in the usual order of things.

Bert and I nearly exhausted the $200 you sent. I turned over only $12.00 to Rolland after we paid our round trip fairs. A full report of our proceedings will arrive from Armstrong and, perhaps has by now. Anyway, here are a few observations and reiterations.

Things are definitely not going very well with the Church in Cordova. There is a good Sunday School attendance but otherwise, attendance is pitiful. About two-thirds of the population of Cordova are Norwegian with Lutheran background. There are two Lutheran ladies working in the church, calling on the people and laying the groundwork for a Lutheran church. One of these ladies is a paid missionary and the other works locally but is new in the community, is attractive, good personality, sings well etc. They plan to start a Sunday School very soon. When that happens our church will be losing some from the only creditable department in the organization.

Ray is very cooperative with these Lutheran ladies and stated to one of the Presbytery members that he thought it would be a good idea if we sold out to the Lutherans. He did not tell me this however. He did state to me that he is no longer optimistic about the work and leads one to believe that it will die a natural death. His wife is ready to leave immediately according to Ray, but to me she said she would stay until they had completed their work. In other words they will both stay on the job until their five year period is up, but all the other members of Presbytery are agreed that they should leave as soon as possible. They do not mix well with the people because they are both too timid. People invite them out for Christmas dinner for example, because they "feel sorry for them eating all alone"...so stated Elder Mrs. Vance. The church needs a pair of extraverts with unbounded enthusiasm or I am afraid it will go by the board.

Ray was elected as commissioner to Synod, provided the overture from Synod passes the Board of National missions whereby the Board pays half of the expense of the commissioner from Yukon

Presbytery of Yukon

IN ALASKA

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

and Washington Synod pays the other half. If Ray goes out, he will be looking around for a church. Bert asked him how he would like to work at Sheldon Jackson School and seemed to be interested. He feels that he could get a church in Washington with out any difficulty.

If Ray ever leaves, the pulpit should not be vacant one single Sunday. Vic Alfsen is a natural for the Church because he literally speaks their language and can talk to them first hand about their home towns in Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Alfsen could put the church on its feet right now but doubt if you could persuade him to take it. But for an interim pastor, he would be ideal, i.e,. in case Ray were to go and a new man had not arrived. If Vic won't take it full time, persuade him to take it temporarily. These are recommendations, ofcourse, in case you do have Ray leave.

Roy Ahmaogak was elected Elder Commissioner to General Assembly. We notified him by wire and he accepted by wire.

Bert will not go outisde until after Easter unless there is someone to take over his work here while he is gone. Atleast, that seems to be his position at present. Personally, I think he should go out the First of February for the four months and be back early in June when all of his work really opens up for the summer. He will be expecting the Board to finance Vella's trip out but I doubt if Vella will go. Bert cannot afford to have his work appear any less important than a regular pastorate, therefore he wants a replacement if he goes out for any length of time.

We initiated action to have the Arctic pastors attend Presbytery and hope to have the women organize a Presbyterian Society by a year from now.

We launched a minor bombshell when we voted to investigate the possibility of a liberal arts self-help college in the Matanuska Valley. It became AP news - published all over the Territory and perhaps outside. Fairbanks people are, ofcourse, agin' it since the University is here.

Presbytery elected or appointed me to go to Nome and make a survey of the area. Expect to do so in a week. Can't imagine who will finance the trip! How about using National Missions Chairman money?

Sincerely,

N. Harry Champlin

nhc

Presbytery of Yukon

IN ALASKA

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U. S. A.

Fairbanks, Alaska
February 4, 1946

Dr. J. Earl Jackman
New Washington Hotel
Seattle, Washington

Dear Dr. Jackman:

Enclosed is our report of the survey taken in Nome, and our recommendations on the basis of same. You do not need to feel any embarrassment over my presence in Nome. The following notice appeared on the front page of the "Nome Nugget" thd day after my arrival. Where they received such amazing information, I am sure I don't know but anyway, all the while I was there everyone thought I was weather bound and finally had to return to Fairbanks because of same. As a matter of fact the Wien plane was in Nome the whole week trying to get to Gambell and I would have made the trip over and right back if it had materialized. Think I could have made it as a guest of the line. Nome is a good place - they made a "Dr." out of me!

DR. CHAMPLIN HERE ON SURVEY OF MISSIONS

Dr. N. Harry Champlin of the Presbyterian Church of Fairbanks is on a survey trip of missions maintained by that church in this part of the country. He hopes to be able to make the trip to Gambel, Wainwright, Point Hope and Barrow. The Barrow mission has been without a pastor for some time, but will soon be active again.

Altogether, I spent eight days there. Had not intended to remain over Sunday but Mr. Polet insisted that I take the church service on Sunday so I consented. The people were wonderfully hospitable to me. Had two meals at the hospital with Dr. Morcom, wife and nurses. Had breakfast one day and dinner another with Rev. & Mrs. Paul Carlson. Had two dinners and two lunches with Rev. & Mrs.Roald Amundsen and Rev. & Mrs. Edward Nelson, Covenant Missionaries, the latter being stationed at White Mountain. Had dinner with a couple we met in Fairbanks and had to turn down a dinner with Polets.

Showed my slides to the school children; gave a talk and showed slides to the parents and teachers. Spoke on the radio twice. Brought the message at the native prayer meeting. Attended a Y. P. social, taught a Sunday School class and preached at the Federated Church. Also attended a basketball game at the army post, went tom cod fishing and crab fishing through the ice. Caught two of each.

One day the report was that the Wien plane was ready to take off for Gambell. People called up all over town and preachers ran around looking for me but no luck. About one o'clock I sauntered in off the ice where I had been tom cod fishing with some Eskimos. Jumped into a taxi, dashed out to the field.. . . but the plane couldn't take off because there was too much snow on the runway! Next day, the weather really closed in.

The trip cost $162.80. Round trip plane fare from Fairbanks $124.20; hotel $22.50; balance for meals and taxis.

Had a good time, met a lot of good people but since I went on Presbytery business, hope somebody else foots the bill! After all, one could hardly consider it a vacation considering how my time was spent.

Rolland and Catherine had been down the highway with Bert, had planned to wait in Fairbanks until I returned in order to go over the report with me, so arranged ahead of time for him to take my services in case I did not return. That is the way it worked out.

Well, according to indirect word received here, Fred is the proud papa of triplet girls! What an armfull? We were all relieved to know that Nan came through all right.

Enclosed also are a couple articles from the local paper.

The snapshots are of a Christmas tree party given by our Marnier's Club for the Eskimos.

Am sending this to Seattle because it would probably not arrive in New York before you leave. Trust it reaches you o.kay.

If you happen to visit the Klerekopers in Ithaca and have some time to kill look up my brother who is a dentist: Dr. O. K. Champlin, 410 Savings Bank Building or 114 Cascadilla Park.

Sincerely,

Harry

N. Harry Champlin